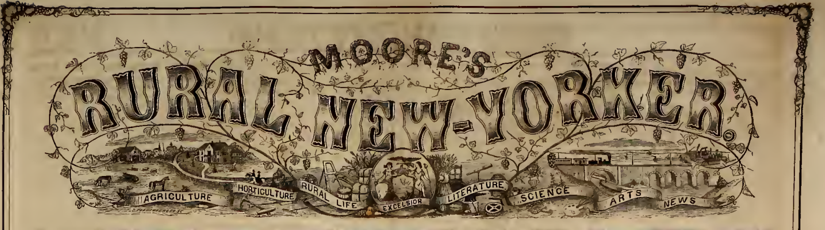

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.] "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT." [SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.

VOL. XII. NO. 11.} ROCHESTER, N. Y.,—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1861. {WHOLE NO. 583.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

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AGRICULTURAL.

INQUIRIES AND NOTES.

Culture of the Willow.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER.—In looking over your issue of February 9th, I find an article from a correspondent, on Osier Willows and their uses. Now, Messrs. Editors, I am anxious to learn more about the cultivation of the Osier Willow. I have thirty or forty acres of low land which is covered with water eight months in the year. It is a deep muck, with clay subsoil, and Ash, Elm, Soft Maple, and common Willow, grow luxuriantly upon it. Will such land as I have described answer for Osier Willow? Where can cuttings be found? When is the best time to cut them—and also the best time to set them—spring or fall? Also, the manner of setting them? I could plant best in the fall, as my land is dryer then than in the spring.—W. G., *Irondequoit, N. Y.*

THE Willow delights in a moist, mucky soil, but experience has proved that it cannot be grown successfully in stagnant water. It requires depth of soil, richness and moisture,—a well drained swamp, therefore, is just the thing, and even if overflowed in the winter and spring, and occasionally in summer during heavy storms, it may be used advantageously. Heavy, retentive upland soils, when deeply worked, are suitable for the Willow. The deep prairies of the West seem prepared by nature for the especial growth of the Willow. Some varieties will bear more water than others, as the *Long-leaved triandrous Willow* will flourish on a soil so soft that plowing is impracticable, and requiring no other care than keeping down the weeds, but on the same soil the *Purple Willow* would scarcely grow.

The ground for the Willow should be well plowed and dragged, and if the soil is not naturally rich, a good dressing of manure should be plowed under. There appears to be a good deal of difference of opinion as to the distance at which to plant cuttings. We rather think, however, that about two and a half feet each way will be found right. The cuttings should be from seven to twelve inches in length, according to the stiffness of the soil. If the soil is heavy, seven inches in length will be short enough. After planting, the ground must be kept cultivated, until the Willow gets such a start as to shade the soil and prevent the growth of weeds.

Planting may be done either in the Spring or Autumn. Some of the nurserymen, we believe, keep grown Willows for sale, but we have not seen any advertised lately. If there is a demand, nurserymen will soon supply cuttings.

Management of a Willow Hedge.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I wish to inquire how to manage my willows. I have about two hundred rods of the Osier, or basket willow, set for a hedge. They are now three years old. Two years ago I cut them back to about three feet, and thinned them out. Since then they have grown unmolested. They are planted in two rows, fifteen inches apart, and the same distance in the rows, so as to break joints. If they ought to be braided, I wish to know how and when.—S D O, *Eagle, Wyoming Co., N. Y.*, 1861

THE willow is well worthy of attention as a plant for live hedges. Though destitute of thorns, such is its strength and rapidity of growth, that it will make a strong hedge in a comparatively short time. The ground should be well prepared, and it would be well to plow a strip not less than six feet wide, drag, and manure if the soil is poor. Then set the willow cuttings either in a single or double row; if in a single row, six or eight inches apart; if in a double row, fifteen inches apart each way, and so as to "break joints." The cuttings from this hedge will be worth something, certainly enough to pay for the use of the land it occupies, and for keeping it in order. In England, says the *English Flora*, the willow is "extensively used for fences for the exclusion of hares and rabbits, as well as cattle, the bark and leaves being so intensely bitter that they will touch neither, while the shoots being long, tough and flexible, may be formed into any shape; and a fence of this kind is reckoned little, if at all, inferior to that made of wire, which, when made close enough to exclude small animals, and strong enough to form a barrier against large ones, is very expensive."

The ease with which the willow is propagated, and its rapid growth, makes it particularly valuable for *shelter* from the sweeping winds. CHARLES DOWNING says, "a screen of *twenty-five* feet in height may be grown from willow cuttings in *five years*, and at a slightly retarded rate of annual increase until a height of sixty feet is gained; thus almost immediately affording that shelter which is so indispensable that there is no safety without it."

The *Purple Willow* is said to be the best variety that can be grown, either for a hedge for protection, or a screen from the winds. It is also one of the best, and in fact the best that can be grown in this country for basket making. We know some of our readers have had experience in growing the willow for hedging, and we invite them to give their mode of treatment for the benefit of our correspondent, and all others interested.

Cottonizing Flax.

IN a late issue of the RURAL, you speak of flax being cottonized,—please tell us what is meant by that term. Who has a jenny for spinning flax? In fact, tell us all about it.—A CONSTANT READER, *Manchester, N. Y.*, 1861

WHEN flax is rotted and cleaned, the fibre appears in long threads, which, in the ordinary process of spinning, are twisted around each other. These long threads make up common flax, or hemp, and are shown under the microscope to consist of oblong cells, which are joined together in forming the ordinary fibre in such a manner that they "break joints," by what is called the "*intercellular substance*." This is soluble in various liquid alkaline preparations. When flax is thus treated by alkaline solutions, it is separated into smaller threads, or into the ultimate oblong cells which, joined together in their growth, as above named, constitute the flax of commerce.

The alkaline substance used may be varied to suit the circumstances, such as ley from wood ashes, lime water, caustic potash, or soda. The caustic solutions are most energetic, and however strong, do not dissolve the ultimate fibre, or cell of the plant. When the long fibre is thus separated into its original and distinct cells, it appears in the form of the fibre of the cotton plant. The irregularities of thickness in the fibrous cell act in such a manner as to give a spiral or screw-like shape, which causes them to cling to each other and form a strong thread when spun. When flax has thus been treated with alkaline liquids, and reduced to its ultimate oblong cells by the solution of the intercellular substance, it may be carded and spun by machinery like cotton, and is said to be "cottonized."

We suppose that the jennies for spinning this cottonized flax are subject to all the general conditions of the spinning jennies for cotton, which are used only with profit in large numbers, with machinery impelled by steam or water power. There is a manufactory of cottonized flax at Fall River, Mass., and others, we believe, elsewhere. The process of separating flax into its ultimate cells has been known, according to the Patent Office Report for 1859, since 1747. A similar process was patented in England in 1801, and in this country in 1828. It is said to have been known in China for centuries.

Feeding Beans to Ewes—Scours in Sheep.

SOME of my neighbors say that feeding beans to ewes during the winter months will cause the lambs to be weakly, others say not. Please tell me through the columns of the RURAL.

I have a flock of yearlings which I keep separate from the old flock, about 40 in number, which I feed one-half bushel per day of mixed beans and oats, about equal quantities, with what hay they will eat, and I find some of them scouring badly, and nearly all of them running down. They have a warm shed. Tell me through the RURAL what the trouble is.—YOUNG FARMER, *Alabama N. Y.*, 1861.

THE subject of feeding grain to breeding ewes has been discussed at considerable length in our columns by breeders, and the disputants have brought forward fact and theory in support of their respective views. Were the arguments summed up, it would show a pretty equal division of the forces. With the large majority, however, *corn* seems to have found special favor, and *oats* are deemed the most baneful. Our own opinion, as has been heretofore expressed, is that grain can be used without evil results following as a *necessity*, but it must be given sparingly and with judgment. Until two or three weeks before lambing, breeding ewes need only be kept in good, plump, ordinary condition. In backward seasons, or where the grass has not obtained a fair start at the period of lambing, careful flock-masters feed their ewes chopped roots, or roots mixed with oats or meal, and the results, as exhibited by the flocks of this class of men, would seem to indicate that such course was excellent economy. If ewes were in poor condition when the feeding of grain commenced, and nothing but dry hay was given in connection with the grain, we would not be surprised at a great mortality among the lambs,—if the ewes escaped the evils arising from constipation and inflammation, it might be deemed remarkable. If, however, the grain was given ground, fed out in moderation, mixed with chopped roots, or in a warm bran mash, we cannot well conceive of aught save a beneficial termination.

Probably we cannot do better than quote the *American Shepherd* on this point:—"The ewes during pregnancy should be disturbed as little as possible, and every attention paid to the quantity and quality of their food. Ewes, however, should not be kept *fat* at this state; indeed, this state is injurious, as it predisposes them sometimes to abortion; but what is usually termed 'good store condition' should be maintained through the whole period of gestation. It cannot be expected from any domestic animal a healthy offspring, in our rigorous climate, if the dam has been permitted to suffer the hardships of cold and starvation; therefore it will be wise if the sheep husbandman will always hold up to view the apothegm, 'so the dam, so the offspring.' There must be good condition to sustain the mother in the trying hour of lamb-birth; and like good condition is equally necessary to sustain the lamb subsequently, and impart to it sound constitution, size and thrift."

Sheep are very liable to an attack of diarrhea, or scours, during their first winter. In addition to this peculiarity of time, the disease may be brought out by giving grain in too large quantities when *beginning* to feed. It should be dealt out very moderately at first, and the quantity gradually increased. A very prominent cause, and one not generally understood, may be found in unripe, or not properly ripened, hay. The author of the *American Shepherd* says, that this is, probably, the chief inducing cause. The disease can be easily arrested by mixing a small quantity of pulverized alum in wheat bran, and feeding for a day or two. If this fails, and a tendency to dysentery be exhibited, give a purgative of castor oil (a tablespoonful,) with dry food, and but little drink. YOUATT gives as a remedy:—prepared chalk, one ounce; powdered catechu, one-half ounce; powdered ginger, two drachms; mix with half a pint of peppermint water. The dose is from one to two tablespoonfuls morning and night.

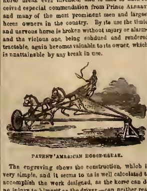
EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE.

ALTHOUGH there is some necessary difference between the Agriculture of Europe and America, resulting from varied circumstances, such as soil, climate, markets, &c.; every year this difference is growing less. Once our farms were new, and the soil rich and cheap—every year an addition of a few acres was added to the cultivated land by the winter's chopping and clearing. Then the experiments of English agriculturists with guano, or special manures, or even composts, and the talk of the importance of preserving the fertility of the land, seemed little less than nonsense to many. Now, with the exception of the more Western States, our farms are all cleared, and the land under cultivation. Farms sell at a high price, while the soil has been robbed of its virgin fertility, and manure has become a matter of almost as much importance here as in Europe. In some sections of the country immense sums are expended by farmers for guano and artificial manures, that a few years ago would not have found purchasers at any price. The communication between our own and the European Continent is now so perfect, that London and Liverpool, for commercial purposes, seem like American ports, and are far more accessible than many of our own country. Europe, too, especially Great Britain, within the past twenty years, has learned to look to us for many of the products of the soil, for the support of her teeming millions engaged in manufactures. Thus, the agriculture of England and America is every year becoming assimilated. Nor, is all the change with us; for while the English may see little in our usually rude system of farming worthy of adoption, we have done much, by our implements and machinery, for English agriculture.

So closely allied are our agricultural interests, that the Agricultural Journals of England are highly interesting, and the practice and improvements of English farmers of the utmost importance to those of America. Our own Journals and improvements seem not to be less appreciated by the Agricultural Editors of Great Britain, for we seldom take up a foreign paper of this character, without observing articles from the American Agricultural Press, or American implements recommended to the English farmer. In a late number of the *Irish Farmers' Gazette* we find a description of the following, of which we had not before heard:

Patent American Horse Break.

THIS is recommended as superior to any other horse break ever invented, and is said to have received especial commendation from Prince ALBERT, and many of the most prominent men and largest horse owners in the country. By its use the timid and nervous horse is broken without injury or alarm, and the vicious one, being subdued and rendered tractable, again becomes valuable to its owner, which is unattainable by any break in use.

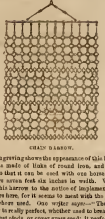


PATENT AMERICAN HORSE-BREAK.

The engraving shows the construction, which is very simple, and it seems to us is well calculated to accomplish the work designed, as the horse can do no injury to himself or the driver,—can neither rear up, or kick, or lay down, and yet is under no more restraint when in motion, than in the ordinary harness. Who is the inventor, or why called *American*, we cannot say.

A Chain Harrow.

FOR several years we have seen notices of a *Chain Harrow* being exhibited at some of the English Agricultural Shows. It is represented as a very effective implement for breaking clods, mellowing the surface, and covering small seeds, such as clover and grass seed, which it is said to do as neatly as can be done by the gardener with a hand-rake. It also collects the weeds on the surface, leaving them in rolls.



CHAIN HARROW.

Our engraving shows the appearance of this harrow, which is made of links of round iron, and in two parts, so that it can be used with one horse or two. They are seven feet six inches in width. We commend this harrow to the notice of implement manufacturers here, for it seems to meet with the greatest favor where used. One writer says:—"The Chain Harrow is really perfect, whether used to break down the stiffest clods, or cover grass seed; it performs the latter operation in a style only to be equaled by a skillful gardener. I find that in clean land it saves me the labor of nine girls; that is to say, that where formerly I employed ten girls to pick off scotch, one girl now suffices to fork the rolls of scotch into a cart. It is light of draught, requires no teeth sharpening, can be moved from place to place without being put in a cart."

Deficiencies in Dairying.

As a series of articles upon "The Dairy" are just being published in the RURAL, the following, which we condense from the London *Agricultural Gazette*, possesses a peculiar interest for those engaged in that branch of farm economy. It shows conclusively that there is great room for improvement, even among the best English dairymen, both in the *quantity* and *quality* of the butter and cheese obtained from the milk of the cow.

If you analyze an ordinary sample of cow's milk, says the writer, you may probably obtain nearly 4 per cent. of butter, quite 4 per cent. of casein, 4 or 5 per cent. of sugar, and 88 per cent. or thereabouts of water. If your cow yields 6,000 pounds of milk per annum, then you obtain from her 240 pounds butter and 240 pounds of casein. But now, analyze and weigh the actual produce of your dairy. Let us suppose you are a Gloucestershire dairy farmer, and that you make 400 pounds of cheese and 50 pounds of butter from your cow per annum. This may be considered an average return. That cheese, according to Prof. JOHNSTON, contains 38 per cent. of casein and 22 per cent. of butter, or in all 152 pounds casein and 88 pounds of butter, besides other ingredients, water, salt, &c. That butter, again, according to Prof. WAY, contains 80 per cent. of pure fat of butter and 3 per cent. of casein, or in all 40 pounds of butter and 1½ pound of casein, besides other ingredients, water, salt, &c. Now add the ingredients thus ascertained together, and you find that you have had from your cow during the twelve months, as the produce of your dairy, 153½ pounds of casein and 128 pounds of butter, instead of 240 pounds of butter and 240 pounds of casein, which, according to analysis, your milk contained.

What has become of the remainder? It is a question of the very greatest importance to all dairy farmers. So great a loss is enough to startle them, and most people will be inclined to doubt it. It must be admitted, in reply to these, that the analyses here quoted are not as they would need to be if all question is to be silenced—analyses month by month of the milk. But they are the average of a number of examinations of ordinary samples by good chemists. It must also be admitted that there is other besides dairy produce obtained from the milk of the cow. Pigs are fattened on the whey, but no farmer will admit that there is enough bacon thus made to correspond to anything like the loss thus indicated of the butter and the cheese of milk. Such a loss is certainly not made up by the bacon fattened on the whey; and if the missing ingredients do escape in the whey, then the pigs fail nearly as egregiously as the dairymaids in saving all the valuable ingredients passing by them in the liquid which they deal with.

The averages here spoken of are not quoted at random. They correspond very closely to the figures given as his experience by Mr. HARRISON, of Frocester Court, Gloucestershire, who has the credit of having first called attention to the loss which, according to analysis, thus takes place in the dairy. In a little *Handbook of Dairy Husbandry*, published last year, his figures are communicated by him thus: In 1857, 55 cows were milked; they yielded 31,700 gallons, or 321,000 pounds of milk, besides rearing 43 calves. From this quantity of milk 25,424 pounds of cheese and 3,466 pounds of butter were made. Now the milk contained, by analysis, according to Mr. HARRISON, 12,480 pounds of casein and 11,556 pounds of butter, whereas the cheese and butter contained by analysis only 9,765 pounds of casein and 8,366 pounds of butter, leaving 2,715 pounds of casein and 3,190 pounds of butter unaccounted for.

Cultivation of Barley.

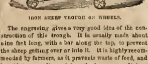
IN a recent issue of the *Royal Agricultural Journal*, we find an article upon Barley Culture, giving the experience of many years in regard to soils, manner of preparation, seeding, etc., with which it may be well for our farmers to contrast their methods. The writer says that the soils in which barley flourishes most luxuriantly are free-working loams, and it is not uncommon for such land to be distinguished as barley-land. This preference arises from the natural habit of growth in the barley, which requires a considerable freedom of action for the development of that bunch of fibres of which its root consists. In the preparation of land for its growth this has to be remembered; for, if the character of the soil is not naturally of the description required, we are compelled to adopt measures for rendering it as much so as possible. The firmness which is so necessary for wheat is objectionable here, and the more completely it is destroyed, the better. Upon the *lightest* class of barley soils there is great danger of the manure being washed through the soil; on such lands, therefore, the use of the plow is avoided in the spring, as the inversion of the soil would favor the loss of manure, and the aid of a cultivator suffices to loosen the soil for the seed-bed. Other soils are brought into a sufficiently loose and and free condition for sowing by means of a single plowing, but by far the larger breadth of our soils requires further preparation. No other kind of grain suffers so much in its quality as barley, from being sown in an unfavorable seed-bed.

The best qualities of barley, as well as the largest crops, are produced from soils very free and open in their character, and these indicate the condition to which we should endeavor to bring any soil upon which this crop is to be sown. To promote the same freedom in the soil, the seed should always be sown when the land is dry; for as we have seen in the preparation of wheat, that a wet seed time was conducive to that increased firmness of the soil which was then our object, so now, when we wish to avoid this effect upon the land, we should in every way avoid the cause.

The use of the drill is very generally preferred for sowing barley to every other mode. The depth for sowing the seed is not subject to the same variations as in the case of wheat; one inch may be considered sufficient in all soils to secure its healthy germination.

Iron Sheep Trough on Wheels.

WE have given several plans of hay-racks for sheep, and now we present our readers with a sheep trough, made of wrought iron, on wheels, so that it can be easily moved, for feeding roots, grain, &c., to sheep, such as is used in England.



IRON SHEEP TROUGH ON WHEELS.

The engraving gives a very good idea of the construction of this trough. It is usually made about nine feet long, with a bar along the top, to prevent the sheep getting over or into it. It is highly recommended by farmers, as it prevents waste of feed, and is said to save its cost in a single season. It is at least worthy the notice of American farmers and implement makers.

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THE DAIRY.—NO. IV.

THE COW AND HER KEEPER.

As nothing I can say will so well describe Mr. HORSFALL'S method as his own words, portions of his essay are here reproduced. He says, "My food for milch cows, after having undergone various modifications, has for two seasons consisted of rape cake five pounds, and bran two pounds, for each cow, mixed with a sufficient quantity of bean straw, oat straw, and shells of oats, in equal proportions, to supply them three times a day with as much as they will eat. The whole of the materials are moistened and blended together, and after being well steamed, are given to the animals in a warm state. The attendant is allowed one pound to one and a half pounds per cow, according to circumstances, of bean meal, which he is charged to give to each cow in proportion to her yield of milk, those in full milk getting two pounds each per day, others but little. It is dry and mixed with the steamed food on its being dealt out separately. When this is eaten up, green food, consisting of cabbages, is given from October to December; kohl rabi till February, and mangels till grass time. With a view to nicety of flavor, I limit

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the supply of green food to thirty or thirty-five pounds per day each. After each feed, four pounds of meadow hay, or twelve pounds per day, is given to each cow, and they are allowed water twice per day, to the extent they will drink.

"During May my cows are turned out on a rich pasture, near the homestead. Towards evening they are again housed for the night, when they are supplied with a mess of the steamed mixture, and a little hay, morning and evening. During June, when the grasses are better grown, mown grass is given to them instead of hay, and they are allowed two feeds of steamed mixture. This treatment is continued till October, when they are again wholly housed."

For the purpose of testing the accuracy of his theory, he commenced weighing his milch cows in January, 1854. He continues, "It has been shown by what I have promised, that no accurate estimate can be formed of the effect of the food on the production of milk, without ascertaining its effect on the condition of the cows. I have continued this practice once a month, almost without omission, up to this date (1856). The weighings take place early in the morning and before the cows are supplied with food,—the weights are registered, and the length of time (fifteen months,) during which I have observed this practice, enables me to speak with confidence of the results.

"The cows in full milk, yielding from twelve to fifteen quarts each per day, vary but little,—some losing, others gaining, slightly, the balance in the month's weighing of this class being rather a gain.

"It is common for a cow to continue a yield from six to eight months before she gives below twelve quarts per day, at which time she has usually, if not invariably, gained weight. The cows giving less than twelve quarts per day, and down to five quarts per day, are found, when free from ailment, to gain without exception. This gain, with an average yield of nearly eight quarts per day, is at the rate of seven to eight pounds per week each.

"My cows in calf are weighed only in the incipient stages, but they gain perceptibly in condition, and consequently in value. They are milked to within four or five weeks previous to calving."

The weights of three of his cows and a heifer are given, and the gain on each from July to April.

No.	1854.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	1855.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		lbs.
1	weighed, July,	10	1	20	April,	11	3	0	gain,	148
2	" "	8	2	10	"	10	2	0	"	218
3	" "	8	2	0	"	10	0	0	"	184
4 (heifer)	" "	7	0	0	"	9	2	0	"	300

"A cow, free from calf and intended for fattening, continues to give milk from ten months to a year after calving, and is then in a forward state of fatness, requiring but a few weeks to finish her for sale to the butchers. It will thus appear that my endeavors to provide food adapted to the maintenance and improvement of my milch cows have been attended with success.

"On examining the composition of the ordinary food which I have described,—straw, roots and hay,—it appears to contain the nutritive properties which are found adequate to the maintenance of the animal, whereas the yield of milk has to be provided for by a supply of extra food. The rape cake, bran, and bran meal which I give, will supply the albumen for the casein. It is somewhat deficient in oil for the butter, while it will supply in excess the phosphate of lime for a full yield of milk."

After giving a description of the beneficial results of such a system of feeding upon his pastures, which is very instructive and important, he closes this branch of the subject with the following important fact:

"On comparing the results from my milch cows fed in summer on rich pastures, and treated at the same time with the extra food I have described, with the results when on winter food and while wholly housed, taking into account both the yield of milk and the gain in weight, I find those from stall feeding fully equal to those from pasture."

On the subject of preparing food he says:—"I have cooked or steamed my food for several years. It will be observed that I blend bean straw, bran and malt combs as flavoring materials, with oat and other straw, and rape cake. The effect of steaming is to volatilize the essential oils, in which the flavor resides, and diffuse them through the mass. The odor arising from it resembles that observed from the process of malting. This imparts relish to the mass, and induces the cattle to eat it greedily: in addition to which I am disposed to think that it renders the food more easy of digestion and assimilation. I use this process with advantage for fattening, when I am deficient in roots. With the same mixed straw and oat shells, three to four pounds each of rape cake, and half a pound of linseed oil, but without roots, I have fattened more than thirty heifers and cows free from milk, from March up to the early part of May. Their gain has averaged fully fourteen pounds each per week,—a result I could not have looked for from the same materials if uncooked. This process seems to have the effect of rendering linseed oil less of a laxative, but cannot drive off any portion of the fattening oils, to volatize which would require a very high temperature. My experience of the benefits of steaming is such that if I were deprived of it, I could not continue to feed with satisfaction.

"To one leading feature of my practice I attach the greatest importance,—the maintenance of the condition of my cows giving a large yield of milk. I am enabled by the addition of bran meal in proportion to the greater yield of milk to avert the loss of condition in those giving from sixteen to eighteen quarts per day, while on those giving a less yield, and in health, I invariably effect an improvement.

"When we take into consideration the disposition of the cow, to apply her food rather to her milk than to her maintenance and improvement, it seems fair to infer that the milk of a cow gaining flesh will not be deficient in either casein or butter. I have already alluded to the efficiency of meal in increasing the quantity of butter. I learn also, from observant dairymen who milk their own cows, and carry their butter to market, that their baskets are never so well filled as when their cows have fed on green clover, which, as dry material, is nearly as rich in albumen as beans. From this we may infer that albuminous matter is the most essential element in the food of the milch cow, and that any deficiency in the supply of this, will be attended with loss of condition, and a consequent diminution in the quality of her milk."

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Piles in Swine.—In answer to an inquiry in the Rural, for a cure for piles in pigs, I will send you a simple but sure remedy, having tried it myself, and having known others to do the same. In every instance it has proved effectual. Take rosin, pulverize fine, and sprinkle on the parts affected a few times, and, my word for it, you have the cure. If any one tries the above remedy, let me know the result through the Rural.—T. W. H., *Eden, N. Y.*

BEDDING SWINE ON THE MANURE.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—On page 54 current Volume, I notice an article headed "A good bed for Swine." Now it seems to me that Mr. Sanfield has one idea without the rest. I know not the exact locality that Mr. S. resides in, and I think it matters but little about that, but in Illinois (where I reside when at home,) swine are not generally allowed to sleep on manure piles (or heaps,) of any kind, as it is deemed very injurious, there being too much steam and unnatural heat caused by fermentation. I have seen swine come out of manure heaps (where they were allowed to sleep,) as stiff as an old foundered horse, and a chance if they ever got over it.

My mode is this: Provide good shelter, *warm and clean*, with plenty of good straw, give them a chance to run out all they choose, and a dry bed at night. I change their bed once in four weeks, for the same reason that our own beds are *aired*. This will bring *my* swine out in the spring *all right*. It may be proper to say that I am a farmer, on a moderate scale, 240 acres, 13 miles west of Chicago—and generally fat from 25 to 40 swine yearly, and that I write from actual experience.—Illinoian, *Gouverneur, N. Y.*, 1861.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker.—Seeing an article in your paper of Feb. 10th, from Jno. Sanfield, recommending the "manure pile" as a "comfortable" sleeping place for swine, and fearing lest some inexperienced farmer might be induced to try the experiment, I enter my protest against any such swinish practice. If Mr. S. permits his hogs to occupy their "comfortable" quarters till spring, he will find them covered with a scurf and such an accumulation of filth upon them, that a Noah's deluge would not wash them clean. Nothing short of strong soap-suds and an hour's disagreeable labor, will cleanse them of the oleaginous excrement with which they are covered. No man should ever pursue such a dirty, filthy and unhealthy practice; if he does, his hogs will soon resemble the rooter represented in your "Rebus." Let Mr. Sanfield put his hogs in a good, warm, dry pen, keep it well cleaned, and their bed renewed every few days, with plenty to eat, and he will have pigs that he will be proud to show to his neighbors.—H. H. T., *Cochranton, Pa.*, 1861.

If you want a litter of sickly and crippled young pigs, you cannot accomplish that object better than to let them lay on a pile of unfermented horse manure. Old hogs may have constitutions to stand through the process of fermentation without any perceptible injury, but I have always found the young ones to suffer from it. As for mixing the manure from the horse and cow stable together, I endorse that, as it has a tendency to prevent the ammonia evaporating from the horse stable manure in a dry season.—Robert Douglas, *Truxton, Cort. Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

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SALTING CATTLE, AND THE SCAB.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Sometime last December or January, I made an inquiry through the columns of your paper, concerning the "Scab" on the eye-lids of my cattle, and the remedy. I have received several communications from different individuals, and also answers from several gentlemen through the columns of the Rural. Among the first was the suggestion of Mr. Edgerton, in regard to salting cattle very often, which plan I adopted at once. I also washed the parts affected with strong brine, which very soon effected a perfect cure. I have noticed the fact, and I believe it is almost universal, that farmers neglect to salt their cattle often enough during the winter months, especially November and December, or during the change from green to dry feed, which I believe is the cause of the "Scab." Others have mentioned other causes, such as lice going to the eyes, and causing an irritation around them in order to furnish themselves with food. This was not the case with my cattle, for there are no lice on them that I can discover. I have killed deer that were affected with the same disease to all appearance, and I know there are no "deer licks" in all this region of country, consequently they get no salt at all.

In regard to Mr. Johnston's remedy, in the Rural of February 16, to apply a "little ungoentum on the eye-lids, but be careful to put on very little," I think the suggestion as to the quantity used is a very good one, and my experience with the drug is, the less used the better for the cattle.

My plan for salting cattle in the winter, is to procure a basswood log,—or some other timber that will split and work easy,—about eight or ten inches in diameter, length according to the number of cattle. Split it in two parts, dig out troughs, set them on legs about two and a half or three feet high, place them in the open yard, and scatter salt the whole length of them as often as needed. Let the cattle "lick" whenever they please. They will keep the troughs free from snow and water, and I think will not be troubled with disease of any kind, if well fed.

W. W. Chapman.

Brookfield, Mich., 1861

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The Bee-Keeper.

German Bee-Keepers' Convention.

The Ninth Annual Convention of German Bee-Keepers was held in the city of Hanover, early in September last. Four hundred and fifty members were in attendance, and the discussions, we are informed, were animated and interesting. We expect to receive a full report at an early day.

The Tenth Annual Convention will be held next September, in the city of Gratz, the capital of Lower Styria. Count Joseph Kotterlinsky, was chosen President, the Rev. Anthony Semlitsch, Vice President, for the current year. Mr. Andrew Schmid, of Eichstadt, is the stated clerk.—*Am. Bee Journal.*

Straw Bee-Hives.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—In a late issue of your valuable paper a request was made for a *Straw Bee-Hive* adapted to the present improved state of bee culture. I wish to state through your columns to all lovers of this branch of rural industry, that I have constructed such a hive—combining all the advantages of warmth, absorption, and evaporation of moisture, both lateral and upward, that the old conical straw hive does, and at the same time receives the surplus honey boxes with same facility as the best board hives. It is alike adapted to the movable frames or cross bars. It can be made of any required warmth, size or shape. The want of such a hive has long been felt by the bee-keeping community. The facts adduced in the article alluded to, commend themselves to the intelligence of practical Apiarians.

To bee-keeping friends, (and I suppose there is a little more of the genuine article in that fraternity than in most others,) I would say, any information desired concerning this hive will readily be given.

Manlius, N. Y. Melancthon Stilwell

Tobacco Smoke for Bees.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—As a general thing I have been much pleased with the articles in your paper found under the heading "*The Bee Keeper.*" But there is one thing in your issue of Feb. 16, to which I decidedly object, and that is the recommendation of *tobacco smoke* for quieting bees. This is wrong. It is inhuman to sicken the poor things with the fumes of tobacco, when the same object can be attained just as easily, and by an instrumentality far more congenial to the feelings of the bees. Sprinkle them with sweetened water, and I will guarantee you that they will be as quiet, and in much better humor, than if you blow tobacco smoke in their face. The bee loves sweets, and cannot resist the temptation to sip them whenever presented, and when once full, is as harmless as a bee without a sting. It will never volunteer an attack. You may handle it then without any fear of the dagger at its extremity. But if people will have smoke, let them use cotton, or cotton rags,—it will answer as well, and be less injurious to bees.

H. H. T.

Cochranton, Feb. 20th, 1861.

We don't know that tobacco smoke injures the bees, but we do know that sweetened water will quiet them just as well, and perhaps better.

American Bee Journal.

For some time we have been aware that the Apiarians of this country have seriously contemplated the publication of a *Bee-Journal*, to be devoted exclusively to the Honey-Bee. Accordingly, on the first day of January, the *American Bee Journal* made its appearance in Philadelphia, and we have now the first three numbers on our table. It is a monthly of twenty-four pages, well printed, and edited with great ability by the most experienced Bee-Keepers in the country, while among its contributors are numbered some of the best Apiarians of Europe. It is published by A. M. Spangler & Co., of Philadelphia, at $1 per year.

Italian Bees.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—I see advertised in your valuable paper, by two different people, the Italian Bees. Being aware of numerous humbugs advertised in the papers, I appeal to you whether I would be safe in purchasing a hive, and whether they are superior to our native bees?—A. H., *Bridgeton, Cumberland Co., N. J.*, 1861.

The Italian bees are said, by the best apiarians we have, to be less irritable in their disposition, and to be more industrious, accumulating more honey than our common bees. From the evidence we have seen, we judge this to be the fact.

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Rural Spirit of the Press.

Benefits of Irrigation.

The Boston *Cultivator* states that Mr. Ephraim Martin, of Sutton, N. H., raised the past season "herd-grass which grew five feet nine inches in height, with heads seven inches long. It was taken from a field where the twentieth successive crop grew without the application of any manure, except the semi-annual deposit of a small stream from Kearsarge mountain, which has been turned upon it in the spring and fall."

Oat Straw as Food for Sick Animals.

I have often noticed, says Dr. Dadd, in the *American Stock Journal*, that sick horses will eat oat straw in preference to any other kind of fodder; as a matter of course, however, some will refuse to eat it. Oat straw contains a large proportion of nutrimental matter and some phosphates, and, when converted into a sort of bran by means of mill-stones, is a very nourishing diet. This sort of aliment is useful when combined with ground oats, for animals whose systems lack the requisite amount of phosphates. A milch cow, for example, the subject of a prostrating disease, is very much benefited by food of this kind.

Quantity of Food for Stock.

Frequent observations have shown that an ox will consume two per cent. of his weight of hay per day to maintain his condition. If put to moderate labor, an increase of this quantity to three per cent. will enable him to perform his work, and still maintain his flesh. If he is to be fatted, he requires about four and a half per cent. of his weight daily in nutritious food. A cow to remain stationary, and give no milk, eats two per cent. of her weight daily; and if in milk, she will consume three per cent. It is evident therefore that two cows may be kept in milk on the same amount that it would take to keep three doing nothing. So says the *Michigan Farmer*.

"Sweetening" Cut Hay for Cows.

A correspondent of the *Connecticut Homestead*, in an account of a noted milk farm near Hartford, says the farmer, Mr. Gates, cuts most of his hay in winter, moistening it, and thoroughly mixing it with a thin swill of rye, corn and cotton-seed meal, and water, allowing the mass to lie from one feeding time to another, to swell and *sweeten* before using. "I say *sweeten*, not turn sour,—he feeds before it comes to that." The writer thinks the process analagous to that undergone in a sour apple, which "if bruised on the side, the juice of that spot becomes decidedly sweet in a short time,—the saccharine ferment, conversion of starch into sugar, and all that," taking place.

Choice in Sitting Hens.

C. W. H., in the *Farmer and Gardener*, says:—"Not every hen that rumples up her feathers and clucks, clucks, clucks, with affected matronly indignation and importance, is fit for the great duty of bringing forth a brood. A good sitting hen should be *large*. Size is important, because of the greater amount of warmth imparted to the eggs, as well as giving the hen the ability to cover the eggs thoroughly, and thus secure regular hatching. She should be *well feathered*. If the hen which shows a desire for incubation, has a meager coat of feathers, try and get her out of the notion. If she will sit in spite of you, give her but few eggs. Avoid cross-grained, 'fuss and feather Hens.' They may do the hatching very well, but prove poor mothers."

Cobs and Cob Meal for Cattle and Swine.

A correspondent of the *New England Farmer* says that breeders express different opinions about the value of cobs as food for domestic animals; some regard them as no better than saw-dust, while others think they contain nutriment. I agree with the latter, in opinion, from practical observation. Soon after the last corn harvest, I had occasion to shell a quantity of corn before the cobs were fully dry. I sat by our oxen and cows, broke up the cobs, and fed them to the cattle, who devoured them with apparent good relish. I have often fed cattle with cobs before, and observed them to feed at a heap of threshed cobs for a definite time, but as cobs grew dry they become tough, and hard to masticate, and therefore cattle are not so fond of them. Cattle and swine, like human beings, have an instinctive preference for those substances which afford nourishment to the body, which is evidence in my mind to prove that cobs are nutritious to cattle. Ruminating animals are furnished with digestive organs capable of extracting nutriment from substances which for swine would be entirely inert. Swine being destitute of the ruminating apparatus, derive no nutriment from cobs, ground or unground, after the corn is ripe. I have repeatedly given my hogs ears of corn partially ripe, and they were very careful to avoid as much of the cob as possible. I have occasionally fed my swine, of late, with cob meal, and the poor brutes resented the treatment like a dainty boarder, and would grunt for unadulterated meal. On the whole, I have made up my mind that cob meal is very good for cattle, but worthless for hogs. Cobs, by the pound, are probably of equal value to butts and stalks, and when ground with the corn, are a substitute for chopped fodder for cattle and horses.

Jefferson Co. Premium Cheese.

At the Winter Meeting of the Jefferson Co. (N. Y.) Ag. Society, the first prize on Cheese was awarded to Reuben Leffingwell, of Henderson, and the second to A. D. Stanley, of Adams. Accompanying their exhibit were statements of the manner of making, which we condense from the *Northern New York Journal*, as follows:

Mr. Leffingwell keeps 35 cows; has 80 acres of pasture, June grass and white clover; 40 acres meadow, seeded to herdsgrass and clover; feeds meal and shorts in spring; average yield of cheese per cow is 450 lbs. Set night's milk into tin vat, and take off cream in morning. Return cream by dissolving in warm milk, then put rennet in with cream and turn the mixture into the milk in the vat. Warm milk with steam to temperature of 85 degrees for reception of rennet. Preserve rennets with salt. Separate whey from curd with a perforated tin strainer. Scald with steam two hours at the temperature of 100 degrees. Salt at the rate of 3 lbs of salt to 100 lbs. of cheese from press. Color curd with annatto applied at the time of setting milk. Put curd to press *warm*, press about 20 hours, average weight of cheese 75 lbs. Bandage cheese about 2 hours after going to press, turn once in 24 hours. Feed whey mostly to cows. Average income last year per cow, forty-three dollars.

Mr. Stanley has 35 cows, feeds on 75 acres; grass, timothy, red top, and clover, meadow equal to 50 acres, of the same kind as pastures. He says, I feed grain and roots, corn meal, and carrots cut in the spring, till the grass comes; average yield per cow, 400 lbs. *I set my milk in tin vat at night, take off cream in the morning, return cream most of the season, put the cream in strainer and pour the morning's milk to it; warm milk by putting warm water into a wooden vat that the tin vat sets in, sometimes use thermometer, but *generally common sense*, the usual heat to receive rennet 82 degrees in cool weather, and less in warm; prepare rennets, wash them, fill them with salt, hang them up to dry, to fit them for use, soak them in pure water with a mixture of sage and salt; set my milk in tin vat; separate whey from curd with a perforated tin strainer; scald by putting water between wooden vat and tin; commence scalding when we are through cutting up; scald gradual till well cooked. Usual time three hours, use about 4 ounces salt to 12 lbs of curd. Color cheese in spring with annatto when I put in rennet; put my curd to press when cold. I give it an amount of pressure sufficient to press it in 24 hours. The average weight of cheese up to this time, 70 lbs. I bandage my cheese when I turn them, in three or four hours after putting to press; apply ley to them when taken out of press; after which apply whey; butter while curing, turn them once in 24 hours. Dispose of my whey by feeding it to calves and hogs. My soil is clay loam, sandy loam, gravel, and black muck; do not keep a full dairy account. Average income per cow last year thirty-five dollars.

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Inquiries and Answers.

Hamburgh Cheese.—It would be very gratifying to me if some of the Rural's readers would furnish, through its columns, the manner of making the "Hamburgh Cheese" so justly celebrated throughout Western New York.—F. T. Hazeltine, *Mazomanie, Dane Co., Wis.*, 1861.

Proportions of Lime and Sand in laying Water Pipe.—Will some of your contributors or readers who have experimented, inform me how much waterlime, or cement, it takes to the rod for laying pipe to convey water? I saw in the New Yorker, a year or so ago, that pipe can be constructed of lime and sand, but I have no idea how much it will take to a rod.—H. Wood, Jr., *Indiana Co., Pa.*, 1861.

Vitiated Taste in Calves.—Men oftentimes, through a perverted taste, acquire a liking for strange things, but such is seldom the case with the brute creation. However, I have a calf which exhibits (would you call it the progress of civilization?) a peculiarity, and I am "in the pursuit of knowledge." This calf is in the habit of eating slivers from the fence, the butts of cornstalks, &c., but has no relish for hay, meal, or any good fodder. Will not some of the Rural's readers tell me how to correct these practices? J. M. Eggleston, *Watson, Allegan Co., Mich.*, 1861.

Blind Staggers in Horses.—In the Rural of March 2d, I saw a remedy for blind staggers.—*Gum camphor, one ounce, whisky or brandy, one pint.* Can this be given at any time, or must it be given when the staggers are coming on?—Querist, *Lyndonville, N. Y.*, 1861.

The remedy is published just as we found it, with its proper credit, &c. We suppose that the general rule, applicable to all remedial agencies, is in full force with respect to this, viz., when they are needed, the sooner administered the better.

Horn Distemper.—I noticed in a late issue of the Rural, the inquiry of a gentleman for a remedy to cure the Horn Distemper. I do not propose giving one, but simply to call your attention to the same subject. I have a cow that was taken with this disease last July, and from the thousand or more infallible cures recommended, I tried cutting off her tail, (supposing, of course, that I had commenced at the right end,) rubbing her back with salt, pepper, and vinegar, pouring turpentine on her head, &c., all of which did no good. I then bored her horns, (which were nothing but a shell,) putting in pepper, salt and vinegar. After a few days they began to discharge, and continued so to do for three or four months, when the flow ceased. During this time the cow seemed to be getting much better, but as soon as the matter stopped she grew worse, declined eating, and I think would have died but for the singular circumstance of her breaking out in the forehead, from which place she has continued to discharge ever since, with occasional exceptions, and at such times she is worse. As a matter of course she is very thin in flesh, and seems to be on the decline. If any of your readers can inform me what to do for her, they will confer a very great favor.—O. F. B., *Belleville, N. Y.*, 1861.

We do not think it at all strange that "a decline" in the condition of the cow has resulted from the treatment received. This boring, sawing off horns, and cutting off the tail, is barbarous, and yet so prevalent, that every cow leech considers himself "armed and equipped according to law," if he has a gimlet in his pocket and a saw under his arm. Our correspondent asks the advice of Rural readers, and we hope it will be freely given, though we have little faith, under the circumstances, that anything can now be done in the way of restoration, as the power of working miracles has departed. Nature will do much, even when subjected to gross abuse, but there is a turning point in the scale, which, having once passed, she can never recruit wasted energies, or rally the declining functions of animal life.

What Ailed the Pigs.—In the Rural of Feb 2d, is the above inquiry. A few years ago some of my pigs were sick, breathed hard, ears and nose turned black, when one of my neighbors told me the cause was bedding the young pigs with oat straw. I removed the oat straw bedding and saw no more of the disease. Since then I have heard of several farmers that have lost pigs from using oat straw for bedding while they were young.—A Subscriber, *Albion, N. Y.*, 1861.

Rural Notes and Items.

To Correspondents.—The manifold favors we are receiving from practical friends are gratefully appreciated. The most timely and important will appear as fast as our space permits. We often receive several good articles on the same subject, and it is difficult to decide which to publish, but, like President Lincoln in forming his Cabinet, have to "assume the responsibility" of selection—perhaps rejecting better timber, often, than that used. We beg to repeat here, that anonymous articles, however good, are excluded by our rules. Receiving so much that is genuine, we have little time to examine, and no space wherein to publish, the essays of those who are too modest to give us their real names. We do not insist upon giving the names of writers to the public, but must have them as evidence of good faith and originality. Another thing. We do not, at present, wish to engage contributors for any department of the Rural; nor can we undertake to return rejected articles—especially stories, poetry, and other miscellaneous effusions. Once more. We cannot, at any season, attend to half the inquiries received asking replies by letter, and recent illness has precluded us from responding to even the most important of this class. Courtesy is a good thing, but not practicable under some circumstances, as we can attest from experience.

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Maple and Sorghum Sweets.—We are indebted to Mr. Martin A. Hoadley, of Wallace, Steuben Co., N. Y., for a sample of Maple Sugar of light color and superior quality—both good looking and toothsome. Mr. H. says the only secret of making sugar white is to keep it clean, as black sugar invariably has dirt in it.

—Mr. A. H. Miller, of Laporte, Ind., sends us a sample of Sorghum Sugar—a very handsome, dry article. We think the flavor, though good, is not superior. Mr. M. writes—"This sugar was made by simply boiling down the juice to the proper density for sugar, without the introduction of any foreign substance whatever to either cleanse or cause it to crystalize, but simply neutralized the 'free' acid in the juice with lime water. In one experiment I tried the bone black filter. This improved the taste, but not the general appearance of the sugar,—nor did it increase the per cent., the effect being to facilitate draining." Mr. M. sends us also his annual report of the Manufacture of Sugar from the Chinese Sugar Cane, which contains further evidence that this branch of husbandry can be rendered profitable in the West.

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Stock Raising in the West.—An article in the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Times of the 6th inst., indicates that Short-horns are being appreciated in Indiana and Illinois, as well as in other sections of the West. It says that I. D. G. Nelson, Esq., of that county, who is one of the best and most successful cattle breeders in the West, has just sold a fine lot of Short-horns—consisting of one bull, one cow, and eight yearlings—to Mr. John G. Dulach, of Princeton, Ill. The sale includes Mr. N.'s stock bull "Emigrant" (sired by imported Emigrant) and several of his calves, and it is believed they will make their mark in Illinois. The Times adds that "Mr. Nelson commenced breeding Short-horn Durhams in 1854, by purchasing at the Kentucky Stock Company's sale one bull calf (Goldfinder) four months old, for which he paid $175, one heifer at $300, another at $240, and two or three others at less prices, but none less than one hundred dollars each. It was regarded by nearly everybody as worse than a hazardous experiment, but he has, by untiring industry and perseverance, proved it a complete success. He has realized from one of his cows alone nearly as much as he gave for the whole of his first purchase."

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Experiment with Guano—*Spring Wheat*.—Writing to the Journal of N. Y. State Ag. Society, our observing and experienced friend, Joseph Watson, of Clyde, Wayne Co., reports "That on the trial of the 'Phoenix Island Guano,' on corn, potatoes, carrots and beans, and vines in plots and rows adjoining them, on which plaster was applied, could not perceive that Guano was any better, if as good as plaster." (We have received returns of some other applications, where the Guano was decidedly advantageous. It may be owing to the kind of soil.) Mr. W. says—"Crops, generally, good again this season. An experiment gave me over 96 bushels of spring wheat from three acres.—If I try it again—and with such success, and *such quality* as obtained this season, of *Tea Wheat* variety, I'll abandon winter wheat—a rotation of 60 bushels of corn, 30 bushels of wheat, 2½ tons of clover, and 2½ bushels of seed, for three years, and rest and pasture the fourth year, will do for me."

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The Personnel of Rarey, the Horse Tamer—now giving "raree shows" in Philadelphia, where he has made a great hit, the receipts of his exhibitions averaging over $1,600 each—is thus described by the Phila. North American—"Rarey weighs one hundred and sixty-eight pounds, stands five feet eight inches high, and has sandy hair and complexion. His eye is gray, his brows prominent, and his nostril is of that peculiar conformation that Lavater describes as indicative of powerful will. His physique is indurated like that of a gladiator. His arm is like a solid strand of whip cord, and his cordial shake of the hand grips you like a vice. He wears side whiskers and moustache, and in voice and personal appearance, is singularly like to our handsome fellow citizen councilman Freeman. In lecturing Mr. Rarey lays no claim to literary merit, but merely seeks to fulfill his mission of teaching humanity for the dumb brute."

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Influence of the Rural—*Another Farmers' Club*.—A correspondent writing from Gouverneur, St. Lawrence Co., speaks in high terms of the value and influence of the Rural New-Yorker. After alluding to our recent article on Farmers' Clubs—its suggestions relative to organizing and conducting them—he adds—"The farmers of our town have formed themselves into a similar association for the purpose of exchanging ideas and otherwise mutually benefiting members. The club meets every Wednesday evening. Several interesting and instructive discussions have already been held, and essays read on a number of practical subjects. It is intended to form a library. The officers of the club are as follows: *President*—John Thomson. *Vice Pres'ts*—Andrew Dodds 2d, Goodman Carpenter, Irwin S. Barnes. *Secretary*—Edwin A. Dodds. *Treasurer*—William Ells. *Librarian*—George Parker."

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Change of the Patent Law.—By the recent amendment to the patent laws it is provided that "all patents hereafter granted shall remain in force for seventeen years from the date of issue, and all extension of such patents is hereby prohibited." We think this a most judicious act, as it will put a stop to a vast amount of corruption and intrigue at Washington. With it also prevented the extension of patents heretofore issued, especially those from which fortunes have been realized, like that of McCormick's Reaper. It is believed, however, that Mr. McC.'s attempt to obtain a renewal will prove unsuccessful.

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Tonawanda Valley Ag. Society.—At the last annual meeting of this progressive Union Society, the following board of officers received a unanimous vote: *President*—J. G. Shepard, Alexander. *Vice Presidents*—Dr. S. L. Grosvenor, Wm. Powers, Attica; Heman Blodgett, Alexander; Dr. E. C. Holt, Bennington; M. Wallis, Ebenezer Losee, Darien. *Rec. Secretary*—S. Folsom, Attica. *Cor. Secretary*—E. Bishop. *Treasurer*—F. R. Wright. *Librarian*—G. Dorrance.

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Washtenaw Co. (Mich.) Ag. Society.—The following are the officers of this Society for 1861: *President*—J. G. Leland, Northfield. *Vice Presidents*—Calvin Wheeler, Salem; Wm. S. Maynard, Ann Arbor; L. S. Wood, Lodi; I. V. Wakeman, Dexter; N. Sheldon, Lodi. *Rec. Secretary*—A. Weidenmann, Ann Arbor. *Cor. Secretary*—W. N. Strong, Ann Arbor. *Treasurer*—U. B. Wilson, Ann Arbor.

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The Farmers' and Mechanics' Club, of Franklin, Del. Co., was recently organized and the following officers chosen: *President*—Beriah L. Bowne. *Vice Presidents*—H. S. Kellogg, W. M. Mills, Eli Hopkins, Hiram Whitney. *Secretary*—Henry E. Abell. *Treasurer*—Harvey Hann. *Directors*—S. F. Miller, Elijah Roe, Enos Munson, P. F. Northrup, J. Edgar Payne.

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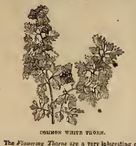
Read the Advertisements. The new ones are timely and interesting, and somewhat numerous withal. Business men are evidently of opinion that the season is at hand for active operations, and that it is unnecessary to wait longer for politicians, or the Government, to arrange affairs.

HORTICULTURAL.

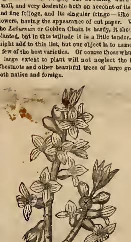
THE FLOWER GARDEN.

In our last we promised to name a few of the trees and shrubs most desirable for the lawn. It may be observed, in the first place, that the trees suitable for the lawn, depends upon its size. It is a great mistake to put large trees on a small lawn, so that two or three will shade the whole ground and prevent the growth of everything else. If you have but little room, therefore select but few trees and those of small growth. A portion, say one-fourth, should be evergreens, as they produce a fine effect both in summer and winter. The *Norway Spruce* makes a pretty large tree, and this should be understood at planting, or it may be placed so near the house or some important walk that its destruction will be necessary when it obtains anything like full size. The *Arbor Vitæ* and the *Red Cedar* are small growing trees, and produce but little shade. For deciduous trees, the *Mountain Ash* and trees of a like character are desirable, and the Magnolias should have a place on every lawn. *Magnolia tripetala*, or Umbrella Tree, *macrophylla*, or Broad Leaved, *conspicua*, or Chandelier, *purpurea*, *Soulangeana*, and *glauca*, are of small growth and the hardiest. Every year we have them flowering in our grounds, and we are surprised that they are not more generally known and planted.



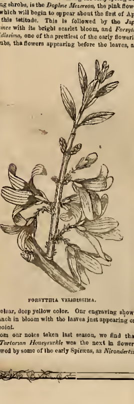
COMMON WHITE THORN.

The *Flowering Thorns* are a very interesting class of small trees, not as generally planted as they deserve to be. The common *White Thorn* is a very pretty shrub, and we give an engraving of a branch, but the *Double White*, and *Double Red*, and the *Pink* and *Scarlet* single varieties, make beautiful trees, and nothing is more beautiful when in flower. They can be obtained at most of our nurseries. The *White Fringe* is a very small tree, growing from twelve to eighteen feet in height, but flowering when quite small, and very desirable both on account of its large and fine foliage, and its singular fringe—like white flowers, having the appearance of cut paper. Where the *Laburnum* or Golden Chain is hardy, it should be planted, but in this latitude it is a little tender. We might add to this list, but our object is to name only a few of the best varieties. Of course those who have a large extent to plant will not neglect the Horse Chestnuts and other beautiful trees of large growth, both native and foreign.



DAPHNE MEZEREON.

In selecting Shrubs, it is best to do so with reference to their season for flowering, so as to have as long a season as possible, and an uninterrupted succession of bloom. First among the early spring flowering shrubs, is the *Daphne Mezereon*, the pink flowers of which will begin to appear about the first of April in this latitude. This is followed by the *Japan Quince* with its bright scarlet bloom, and *Forsythia viridissima*, one of the prettiest of the early flowering shrubs, the flowers appearing before the leaves, and of a clear, deep yellow color. Our engraving shows a branch in bloom with the leaves just appearing on the point.



FORSYTHIA VIRIDISSIMA.

From our notes taken last season, we find that the *Tartarian Honeysuckle* was the next in flower, followed by some of the early Spiræas, as *Nirondertii*, and the *Lilacs*, of which there are now half-a-dozen good varieties. As the *Lilacs* were about loosing their flowers, the members of the spicy *Calicanthus* family, the *African Tamarix*, the *Deutzia gracilis*, and several of the *Spiræas* put on their holiday dress. Of the latter the *lanceolata*, though common and cheap, is one of the very best. It was figured and described in the Rural of January 12, the present year. This will bring us to about the 20th of June, when that most magnificent Chinese shrub, the *Weigela rosea*, will flower, and prove the most attractive object on the lawn; and he who plants a *Weigela* will never regret the trouble or the investment. It follows that old favorite, the *Snow Ball*.

Here we have a succession of flowers from the first of April until July, or about three months, from shrubs alone, and the *Indigo Shrub*, the *Smoke Shrub*, and the *Altheas*, and others, will prolong this season quite into the autumn, while the *Snow Berry*, with its icy-looking balls, and the *Strawberry Tree*, with its clusters of bright berries, carries the beauty of the shrubs far into the winter. All that we have named are desirable, and perhaps we have mentioned enough for a small collection, but there are probably many other varieties as good as some of these. We have not space, however, for anything like a catalogue of shrubs suitable for the town. In our next we will name a few of the best Herbaceous and Annual Flowers, with such directions for cultivation as we judge will be profitable to our readers.

* * *

CULTURE OF THE PLUM.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—It must be acknowledged that in Western York the Peach is an uncertain crop. We had fruit last year, but the present spring our buds are killed, and we shall have no fruit,—and this was the fate of our fruit for several years previous to the last. Now, we want a substitute for the peach—a more certain crop. Apples will do for a winter fruit, but they cannot take the place of our summer peaches. The pear is being cultivated by many fruit growers, and the summer varieties may do tolerably well to take the place of the peach, but I think the Plum is, in many respects, a better substitute for the peach, being much more like that fruit, while in some respects it has an advantage over that old and delicious favorite. For cooking and preserving there is nothing equal to the plum,—in fact it is the only fruit that is improved by cooking. By being cooked, the peach and pear lose their flavor, but who will say that the *Damson* family is not much improved by cooking, and there is no fruit, if we except the cranberry, that is equal to it for tarts, pies, and sauce, while for bottling, this class of plums is unequaled.

The plum is now sought by shippers for the Eastern and the Canada markets, and last season I noticed three dollars per bushel was paid for good plums, while the best English *Damsons* were eagerly purchased at four dollars per bushel for the Montreal market. I sold some at this price, and was informed by the purchaser that he had a contract for all he could furnish at $6.50 in Montreal. Now, I do not say that this price may always be obtained, but I do think that good cooking plums will always sell at a remunerating price. They bear transportation well, if picked at a proper time, and there is little danger from bruising in shipment, while a few days' delay that would ruin a cargo of peaches, causes no injury to plums. This makes them safe for shippers.

The *Curculio* and the *Black Knot* proved so injurious to the plum that its culture for a time was almost abandoned, but now they are not serious. A proper use of the knife will prevent injury to the trees by the *knot*, while a little care will save abundance of fruit. This all will admit, I think, who have had experience during the past three or four years.

Monroe Co., N. Y., 1861. PRUNUS.

* * *

GRAFTING THE GRAPE-VINE.

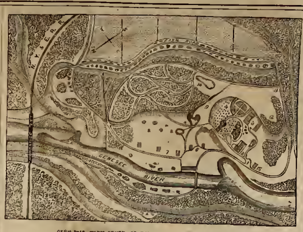
My experience in grafting the vine for several years would furnish a chapter of failures. I think I grafted a few vines every season for about five years, and during the whole time succeeded in making but *one* grow and form a good vine; and this *one* only by disregarding the usual directions given by the professed experts. Instead of waiting for the formation of leaves and discontinuance of the excessive flow of sap, *I grafted this one early*, before the flow commenced. Since that time I have grafted thousands of vines, with nearly as good success as attends any other kind of grafting. I have practised saddle grafting, whip grafting, and several fancy methods, but have found the common cleft grafting, carefully performed, the most reliable and successful. For large, strong stocks, I hardly think tying necessary, though a covering of clay or grafting-wax is undoubtedly beneficial. For smaller stocks, I use only paper covered with grafting-wax on one side. I could not recommend copper wire in any case. I have also grafted on various stocks, with very little difference in result, using indiscriminately the wild frost-grape of the woods, the Catawba, Isabella, Concord, and some others. I do not say grafting the vine *cannot* be successfully performed after the leaves have formed; but it is a fact that up to the present time, notwithstanding many trials, I have never succeeded in doing it.—Geo. W. Campbell, in *Horticulturist*.

* * *

AN ORNAMENTAL FARM.

We have in this country but few fine rural residences,—such as would be called in Europe country seats,—all laid out in parks, lawns, and gardens, for beauty and pleasure, such as is very common in England, and which gives such a pleasant variety to its scenery. We do not regret that this is so, for where we find a few sufficiently wealthy thus to gratify their taste, we find many poor. Here wealth is divided among the people, few amassing a very large amount, and few fail to obtain sufficient to gratify all reasonable wants. But where persons have, by industry, or ability, or good luck, accumulated a large fortune, we are pleased to see them expend a portion in the cultivation of the beautiful trees and plants which the Creator has placed here for our enjoyment,—in showing how nature and art combined can make a copy, imperfect though it be, of the first and best of all gardens, where grew every tree that was pleasant to the sight and good for food. Such establishments serve as light-houses, to guide the masses in the work of improvement.

Last season we received an invitation to visit the country seat of Wm. P. Letchworth, Esq., on the Genesee River, near the village of Portageville, and in full view of Portage Falls, the High Bridge, and the romantic scenery which has given that section of the State a world-wide fame, and made it a favorite resort of the tourist. Mr. L.'s farm consists of about two hundred acres, already partially improved by the construction of walks and drives through the forest, lawns, seats, and rustic adornments, while other improvements are contemplated and in progress. Not finding it convenient to accept the invitation, we have been furnished by William Webster, who had charge of the improvements last season, with a drawing of the grounds, and a few pages from a new work on Landscape Gardening, which he designs publishing, descriptive of this place.



GLEN IRIS,—FARM [illegible], OF WM. P. LETCHWORTH, PORTAGEVILLE.

Glen Iris, the country seat of Wm. P. Letchworth, Esq., is situated on the Genesee River, near Portageville, and contains about two hundred acres, finely diversified with rock, wood and water. The scenery is picturesque and grand, and the natural advantages and capabilities of the place are well appreciated by the proprietor, and none of its natural beauties have been marred, but rather improved by art. In forming my designs, and in the execution of the work as far as completed, I have strictly adhered to the natural style, and my views in this respect have been in accordance with those of the proprietor. In ground operations no leveling has been attempted, except to overcome some steep ascent in the drives, or to remove some slight obstruction on the surface. The fences, gates, bridges, &c., are all executed in rustic style.

By reference to the plan it will observed that there are three entrances to the estate, marked respectively 1, 6, 13. The principal entrance is at 1. The dwelling is located at 2, and the stables and offices at 3. Here is seen one of the difficulties I have already hinted at as likely to occur in places that have been previously occupied. In this case the dwelling was located in too close proximity to the entrance gate, thereby destroying the good effects which might have been obtained had the arrangement been otherwise. But, as the dwelling, stables and offices had undergone a thorough repairing, there was no alternative but to let them remain for the present. The small space encircled by rays forms a terrace of about ten or twelve acres in extent. On this is located the dwelling, stables and offices, gardener's cottage, and kitchen garden, as 4, and orchard. The most natural site for the dwelling would have been near the place where the gardener's cottage is located, and which is marked 5 on the plan. This arrangement would have presented a broad and ample lawn between the entrance and the dwelling from the front part of the house. As now represented, the drive is carried along near the edge of the terrace, past the gardener's cottage, to a point where it is intersected by another drive, from the lower entrance, which winds around the hill to the point of intersection. From this point, for a short distance, the drive is supported by a retaining wall and hand rail. From thence it sweeps around to the foot of a small lake, (marked 11,) across which is thrown a neat rustic bridge. A little beyond this, and to the left of the drive, is a small fish pond, (marked 8,) which is fed by a never failing spring of the purest water. From this point, the drive ascends the hill-side to the higher grounds beyond, where it is intersected by numerous other roads. These are made to traverse the hillside in every direction—sometimes through ravines, around knolls, over streams, through woodland and glade, diverging frequently where some giant oak or pine would seem to bar its further progress, plunging at times into the deep and gloomy forest, and at others opening out into a beautiful stretch of verdant lawn.

It may be well to mention that a great portion of the estate through which these roads pass, is original forest, and having been but lightly thinned, the trees have attained, many of them, an enormous growth. There is one in particular, a noble pine, around which one of the drives is carried, and which is marked 10 on the map, that is well worthy of notice, rising as it does from the center of the road with a majestic and stately shaft to the height of nearly a hundred and fifty feet, and which for a long distance is clean and straight as an arrow. The tulip trees and magnolias are also conspicuous objects in these grounds. Indeed, it is seldom that I have found so large a number of species and varieties of our native forest trees in such a circumscribed space. For those desirous of extending their ride to a more remote part of the grounds, the drive is made to connect with the farm road, which is carried along the upper edge of the bluff, the elevation of which is three hundred feet above the bed of the river between the upper and middle falls, and from which an extended view of the surrounding country may be obtained. One side of this road is flanked by a stump fence, which is quite characteristic of this part of the country. The main drive, which is about a hundred feet below this, after following the course of the bank for some distance, approaches and passes close to a small but beautiful sheet of water called Crystal Lake, (marked 14 on the plan.) The elevation of this lake is two hundred feet above the bed of the river. The drive in passing the lake immediately emerges into a most beautiful stretch of verdant lawn, to the right of which is a beautiful pine grove (marked 9,) which contains a number of rustic seats, and from thence is carried for a short distance along a side-hill until it finally issues out into the public road through the upper entrance gate, (marked 13.)

Opposite the bridge which crosses the river at the middle falls, is the lower entrance gate, on one side of which is the porter's lodge, on the other, cottages for the laborers (marked 7) employed on the estate. The main approach to the dwelling from the railroad station is by the public road on the north, as seen on the plan, near to the short curve which winds around the point, (marked 12.) A little to the northeast of the main entrance are the middle falls stairs which lead to bed of the river. By the side of the stairs descends one of the most charming cataracts to be found, being the overflow of the small creek shown on the northeast corner of the map. This is a great point of attraction for the tourist. A small building for the accommodation of visitors is placed near the head of the stairs, where those who feel disposed can enter and rest themselves after the fatigue of ascending the river bank. Close to, and on the right of the main entrance, is a good sized building, (marked 15.) This, Wm. Letchworth, with his accustomed liberality, has furnished with a large number of the leading periodicals and public journals of the day, and thrown open to the public free of charge as a reading room. Among the other improvements which my plan embraces, and which will be entered into as soon as practicable, is a rustic veranda for the reading room, and also one for the retiring room at the middle falls stairs.

That this place and its sublime scenery is not wholly unknown abroad, I can vouch for, as I have in my possession a large photograph of the immense bridge and the scenery surrounding it, which was executed in London, from a view taken by an artist who came *purposely* to this country, a short time since, to take, among other places, some of the best views in the vicinity of Portage.

* * *

Inquiries and Answers.

PEACHES FOR MARKET.

Will you please inform me and others the best two varieties of peaches for market, commencing at the earliest, and so on? I wish to plant an orchard of about two thousand trees, and want to select, so that I can harvest at all seasons. Are free or cling stocks the best for budding?—S. H. Cole. *Allensville, Indiana*, 1861.

The kind of stocks will make no difference. In preference to naming the varieties best suited to this locality, we give our Indiana friend extracts from the Reports of several of the Western [illegible] to the American Pomological Society, of the varieties best suited to their several localities, judging that this course will best convey the information needed. A committee was appointed at the last session of this Society to prepare, with the aid of local committees, *lists of fruits adapted to different sections of the country*, "due regard being had to soil, climate, and other circumstances, affecting the tree and fruit." The committee, we understand, have entered upon their work with energy, and we anticipate great good from their labors, and much light upon the difficult question—What varieties are best adapted to the different sections of the country?

Thomas S. Kennedy, Chairman of the Kentucky Fruit Committee, makes the following report on Peaches:—"The following list of twelve varieties, which are named in the order of ripening, and which embraces a period extending from July to October, is recommended for an orchard for family use, of one hundred trees, to be divided in equal proportions of each kind. For an orchard of one thousand trees for market purposes, the earliest kinds sell for the highest prices, and the late varieties are generally in great demand for preserving; hence a larger portion should be *of the early and late kinds*, when prices are high, instead of the kinds that mature during the glut of the season.

"Early Tillotson, free; Crawford's Early, free; New York Cling, (Syn., Pope's Cling); Van Zandt's Superb, free, Old Mixon, free; Catharine, cling, Crawford's Late, free; Columbia, free; Grand Admirable, cling; Freestone Heath, Large White Heath, cling; Smock's Late, free.

"In addition to the foregoing, many other varieties of good quality could be added, and would be desirable in insuring, by the diversity of kinds, more certainly of a partial crop in unfavorable seasons. By some persons, the white fleshed kinds are believed to be hardier than the yellow fleshed.

"Hill's Superb Jersey, free, Druid Hill, free; Leopold, cling; Tippecanoe, cling, Early Red Rareripe, free, George the Fourth, free; Royal George, free, Hobb's Seedling, cling; Malta."

M. B. Bateman, for Central and Eastern Ohio, recommends as follows:

Best six varieties for family.

Hale's Early,
Gross Mignonne,
Crawford's Early,
Old Mixon Free,
Old Mixon Cling,
Ward's Late Free.

Best twelve varieties for family use and market

Hale's Early	10	Old Mixon Free	10
Early York	8	Smock Free	8
Cooledge's Favorite	8	Crawford's Late	12
Yellow Alberge	8	Old Mixon Cling	12
Large Early York	8	Lemon Cling	8
Crawford's Early	12	Ward's Late Free	8

For an orchard of one thousand trees, multiply the figures by ten; or add to the list such as Troth's Early, Yellow Rareripe, Jacques Rareripe, Susquehanna, Cook's Seedling, and Red Cheek Melocoton, then multiply.

T. T. Lyon, for Michigan, recommends the following.

Best twelve varieties of peaches for an orchard of one hundred trees.

Serrate Early York,	5	Early Slocum,	10
Cooledge's Favorite,	8	White Imperial,	5
Barnard's Seedling,	10	Early Crawford,	12
Large Early York,	8	Late Red Rareripe,	5
Jacques Rareripe,	10	Oldmixon Free,	10
Poole's Late Yellow,	10	Crawford's Late,	10

With the present ample railroad facilities for transportation, our Northern markets are supplied with peaches in advance of the season, so that the very early varieties become less profitable. Under this state of affairs, the following is believed to be a profitable selection for a market orchard of one thousand trees of this fruit:

Barnard's Seedling,	300	Crawford's Early,	400
White Imperial,	100	Crawford's Late,	200

No report was presented from the State of Indiana. The remissness of some States is much to be regretted.

Spreading Straw on Meadows, &c.—A number of subscribers, as well as myself, wish to know through the means of your valuable paper, if the spreading of dry straw from the stack on meadows is of any, and if so, what benefit to it? also, would it be a *benefit* to spread it *under* apple trees which stand on meadow land? Any comments or suggestions on the matter will be gratefully received.—Alonzo Deto, *Caton*, 1861.

Straw, or anything spread on the grass under young trees that would have a tendency to destroy the grass, would be beneficial to the trees. This straw would do if thick enough to exclude light and partially the air. Of course this system would not be advantageous to a meadow. Whether a light covering of straw would help the grass or not, we must leave to those who have tried the experiment.

Domestic Economy.

COLORING RECIPE, CAKES, &c.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Seeing an inquiry in a late number of your journal for a recipe to color yellow, I send mine, which I know to be good:

Coloring Yellow.—To 5 lbs. of cloth, (cotton,) dissolve one and a half lbs. of sugar of lead in hot water, dissolve in a tub of cold water 12 ounces bichromate of potash. Dip in the lead water first, ring out and dip in the potash, ring out, and thus proceed until you have a good color to produce an orange. Dip the yellow into boiling hot lime water; take a lump of lime as large as your fist, in one pailful of water, let it settle, skim, dip in the cloth, and rinse in cold water.

Loaf Cake.—One pound of flour; 1 lb. of sugar; 1 of butter; 8 eggs, well beaten; whites and yolks separate; the rind of one lemon, chopped very fine; 1 lb. of raisins, stoned, and chopped a little; 1 teacup of sour milk; 1 teaspoonful saleratus.

Icing for Tarts.—Beat the yolk of an egg and some melted butter well together, wash the tarts with a feather, and sift sugar over as you put them into the oven.

Rich Plain Cake.—Beat a pound of butter to a cream and add a pound of brown sugar, rub in for ten minutes longer, then add eight eggs, two at a time, beating them as they are put in until the whole is very smooth, then stir in a pound and a quarter of flour, a little at a time, till it is well mixed. Season with a little nutmeg, add a pound of currants, together with citron and orange peel cut into pieces. Bake two hours. ANNA.

Eden, Erie Co., N. Y., 1861.

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HOW TO MAKE TOILET SOAP.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—In reply to L. M. C., St. Mary's, C. W., here are two recipes for making Toilet Soap, which are very good, at least, so I think:

Transparent Soap.—One pound common bar soap; 1 pint alcohol; 15 drops citronella, or other perfume; half oz. spirits of hartshorn. Have your soap cut very fine, put all the material in a clean *iron* kettle, stir it slowly until all is dissolved. Let it just come to a boil, then take it up in any shape you please, in molds or bars.

White Bar Soap.—Eight quarts of water; 4 lbs. common bar soap; half pound sal soda; 2 ozs. alcohol; 2 ozs. saltpeter; 1 oz. borax. Put all into an *iron* kettle, stir till all is dissolved, then boil ten minutes.—J. E. Wolcott, *Pittsford, N. Y.*, 1861.

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How to take Care of the Hair.—As to men, we say, when the hair begins to fall out, the best plan is to have it cut short, give it a good brushing with a moderately stiff brush, while the hair is dry, then wash it well with warm soap suds, then rub into the scalp, about the roots of the hair, a little bay rum, brandy, or camphor water. Do these things twice a month—the brushing of the scalp may be profitably done twice a week. Damp the hair with water every time the toilet is made. Nothing ever made is better for the hair than pure soft water, if the scalp is kept clean in the way we have named.

The use of oils, or pomatums, or grease of any kind, is ruinous to the hair of man or woman. We consider it a filthy practice, almost universal though it be, for it gathers dust and dirt, and [illegible] wherever it touches. Nothing but pure soft water should ever be allowed on the heads of children. It is a different practice that robs our women of their most beautiful ornament long before their prime; the hair of our daughters should be kept within two inches, until their twelfth year.—*Hall's Journal of Health*.

* * *

Apple Pie.—It is a conceded fact that the most superior apples make but an insipid pie in the *spring*. I would like to give the numerous lady readers of the Rural the benefit of my improved recipe, "if you please."

Make a nice, flaky crust, pare and cut the apples in rather thick slices, spread them on your plate an inch thick, or more, sprinkle a handful of sugar over them (I prefer white,) then spread two or three tablespoonfuls of *currant jelly* over them, a little flour from a flour dredge, nutmeg, three tablespoonfuls of water, and a lump of butter the size of a small butternut, and you will have a superior pie. Grated white sugar on the top crust before putting in the oven is an improvement. To prevent the juice boiling out in the oven, wet the edges of your crust with the white of an egg; water will do, but egg is better.—J. E. Wolcott, *Pittsford, N. Y.*, 1861.

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Jelly Cake.—Three eggs; 1 cup sugar; half cup butter; 1½ cup flour; half teaspoon saleratus; bake in thin loaves. Spread the jelly on when the cake is warm, and roll immediately.

Ginger Cake.—Two-thirds cup molasses; one-third cup butter; 7 table-spoonfuls water; one teaspoon ginger; half teaspoonful salt; half do. saleratus; 1½ cup flour; bake quick.

Ginger Cookies.—One cup molasses; half do. butter; half do. water; half teaspoonful saleratus; 1 do. ginger; flour sufficient to stiffen enough to roll out.—Ida, *Sauquoit, N. Y.*, 1861.

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A Delicate Dessert.—Lay half a dozen crackers in a tureen; pour enough boiling water over them to cover them. In a few minutes they will be swollen to three or four times their original size. Now grate loaf sugar and a little nutmeg over them, and dip on enough sweet cream to make a nice sauce; and you have a delicious and simple dessert that will rest lightly upon the stomach—and it is so easily prepared. Leave out the cream, and it is a valuable recipe for sick room cookery.

* * *

A Cure for Rheumatism.—Bathe the part affected in water in which potatoes with their skins have been boiled, as hot as can be borne, just before going to bed. By the next morning the pain will be much relieved, if not removed. One application of this simple remedy has cured the most obstinate rheumatic pains. This is vouched for by an English paper; it looks to us like an "old soldier," but if it be a remedy, God bless the afflicted.

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[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

Try it.—With these words the stranger put a package of De Land & Co.'s Saleratus into Kate's hand, and disappeared. Ever after this memorable day, poor bread, dingy pastry, and sulphurous biscuit, were unknown in this family, but the fame of Kate's excellent pastry, bread, &c., spread over the whole school district, and led many envious people to make the inquiry, "Whose Saleratus do you use?" to which she invariably replied, D. B. De Land & Co.'s. It can be purchased from most grocers and storekeepers, and is for sale at wholesale by the manufacturers, at Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., and by the grocers in the cities and villages throughout the country.

Ladies' Department.

THE EMPTY CRADLE.

BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER

In the still and quiet chamber
There's an empty cradle bed,
With a print upon the pillow
Of a baby's shining head.
'Tis a fair and dainty cradle;
Downy, soft, the pillows white
But within the blankets folded
Lies no little form to night.

Once the mother sat beside it
When the day was growing dim,
And her pleasant voice was singing
Soft and low, a cradle-hymn.
Now, there's no more need of singing,
When the evening shadows creep,
For the cradle bed is empty,
And the baby gone to sleep

Little head that used to nestle
In the pillows white and soft,
Little hands, whose restless fingers,
Folded there in dreams so oft;
Lips we pressed with fondest kisses,
Eyes we praised for purest ray,
Underneath the church yard daisies
They have hid you all away.

Ah, the empty, needless cradle!
We will put it out of sight,
Lest our hearts should grieve too sorely
For the little one to night.
We will think how safe forever,
In the better fold above,
That young lamb for which we sorrow,
Resteth now in Jesus' love.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE DRESS QUESTION:

"LINDA" DEFINING HER POSITION.

THE unknown reformer is growing more specific. He says "fashionable women," instead of "American women, which distinction is quite pacifying, since it enables us to define our own position.

As women generally possess a fondness for dress, and nearly all approach as near the latest styles as their means will allow, the term "fashionable" has an extensive application. One would think, to read the newspaper paragraphs, that the mandate had gone forth,—"Choose ye this day whom ye will serve," and that the response had come echoing back from the women of the land,—"The milliners and mantuamakers." We take up a number of the RURAL and read as follows in regard to fashionable women: "They have little force of character, they have still less power of moral will, and quite as little physical energy. They are only dolls in the hands of milliners and servants to be dressed and fed to order. They write no books, and they are worthless for all the good ends of life."

Thus whole magazines of accusations are hurled at you women of fashion, and have you no ammunition for self-defence? If you've anything to confront the enemy with, you'll need a gun that'll "shoot 'round a corner" to make the desired hit. But since conciliation and peace instead of war are more in accordance with our republican notions, we'd advise you to make some concessions; do something to atone for your offences; for, according to the article quoted, you bear about as much resemblance to a true woman in mental and physical stature as DOLLY DUTTON to Queen ELIZABETH, and a man might marry half a dozen such as are represented, without being guilty of polygamy.

Now, supposing fashion, in its strictest sense, be laid on the shelf, that your real worth be not eclipsed by your plumage. Doff your hoops, diminish your skirts from nine widths to four,—such amplitude is unnecessary,—make your own bonnet, wear that blanket shawl,—just the thing for winter,—toss those light, thin-soled shoes out of your sight, and wear such as your grandmothers wore, eschew dainties and chaw surloin, tell them you're going to put down pride, and see if you are not regarded with as much astonishment as "JOAN of Arc," who was "made (Maid) of Orleans" instead of crinoline, and ten to one you will be reckoned a candidate for the Lunatic Asylum in less than a week.

Perhaps our unknown reformer would preach "moderation" unto all "women," but does he not know that the word is obsolete? People don't settle down on medium ground now-a-days. They hurry, and crowd, and jostle along the great highway of life, each one anxious to outstrip his fellow in pursuit of riches, fashion, fame, and power, knowing there is always plenty of room in that far-off region of Eureka, that is only gained by real heroes who lean on their own staff, keeping right before the mental vision what Poor Richard says about Providence helping those who help themselves.

It is said "you write no books." Don't for the world let any one know you ever dreamed your destiny was "undeveloped in an ink-stand," or you'll be dubbed a "Blue Stocking." You are ridiculed for your superficial attainments, yet among the scores of institutions in this republican nation, how many are there where you can compete for as thorough a collegiate course as the opposite sex. Greek roots are not deemed proper food for your mental digestion. Your mind is expected to acquire the requisite strength and discipline for the vicissitudes of life on music and French, moonshine and flowers. The science of *Home*pathy, (Homœopathy) however, and the diligent practice of the same, has especially been assigned women ever since PAUL advised a certain portion to be "keepers at home." But think you there was any "down town," in all its present significance, in those days. We are of the opinion charity would have scattered its instructions nearer home if the term had been familiar to the great Apostle of the Gentiles.

A different education in regard to this home matter may change the organized pursuits of the day somewhat, and home, not as an exception but as a rule, be the grand panacea for the ills of life, when idleness and outward adorning among the rich receive less homage. Woman may be something more than a cup-bearer and mother of her race, and by the assistance of the RURAL be able to circumnavigate her *sphere* of duties instead of a *hemisphere*. Useful instructions and cultivated judgment may form a redoubt around the treasures of the heart and mind, such as the flippery of fashion and the vollies of small talk cannot effect, and which will enable her to bring out the good points of form, feature, and complexion by the assistance of dress, without, at the same time, bringing out the weaker points of character. The beauty of an object or performance is dependent on the completion. Does not the same hold true of Education? The Almighty seemed to express this beauty of completion in his works when he made woman the finishing stroke of his great creation. There is much beauty in the fable that represented ADAM as created at sunrise to go forth and labor amid the glories of the day, and EVE as created at sunset, amid the quiet and gentle glories of the night.

It is said the woman was created more for ornament. In that we agree. But the harder the steel the brighter the polish. Thus the more solid and useful the attainments, the more susceptible of refinement and loveliness. May not the arts that are often made the study of a lifetime by the opposite sex be of equal value to her? Does not the witchery of music pervade her being? May she hope to solve the mystery of the canvass? Can she not compete for laurels with the *artist*, whose life is only another name for beauty? Whatever her tastes and pursuits may be, she courts the approbation of her teacher and leader, man. Some particular star is ever guiding her along the pathway of life, variable it may be, yet it remains in her sky of destiny, sometimes threatening to withhold the light of her life, and again shedding a luster that makes earth a paradise of enjoyment.

Hammondsport, N. Y., 1861. LINDA BENNETT.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

NEW ENGLAND FARMER'S HOMES.

WE read of the thrift, the worth, and the intelligence of New England farmers, and we know them as a class that grapple with the stern, practical realities of life. Nature is not so lavish of her gifts that they are to be had for the asking; her brightest treasures are to be won only by untiring labor. This the farmer learns by experience. His life, as a general thing, is not calculated to soften down the ruggedness of his nature, (a nature that is partially forced upon him by this mode of life,) unless some refining influence be exerted in his home.

A farmer's home should be rendered as attractive as that of the merchant or professional man. His own interest and the well being of his family demand it. The neglect of this, is one great reason why so many farmers' boys and girls, too,—the very strength and flower of New England,—are yearly emigrating to the Far West, there to build up new States, and new homes, far more beautiful than those they have left.

It is generally conceded, I am aware, that the neat white house, overshadowed by stately trees, is the type of New England farm houses. In the vicinity of our populous villages this is so; but outside of this, where the *necessities* of society do not actually demand it, the case is usually different. It is not always the lack of means that gives such a bleak, desolate look to these isolated dwellings; for there are few men so poor that their means will not allow the transplanting of a few trees to shade their homes from the glare of the summer sun, or protect them from the fierce winds of winter. It is not the lack of time, either, that prevents farmers, wives cultivating flowers and shrubs enough to bring at least a portion of GOD's blessed sunlight of cheerfulness around the most dreary dwelling. It cannot be from motives of economy that the front gate is off its hinges, and each wandering cow or horse passes in and out at will. Yet, oftentimes, these unsightly buildings are owned by farmers who have a due regard for the comfort of their stock, and the management of their farm,—owned by men who would be indignant if it was but hinted that the comfort of their favorite horse or sheep engrossed more of their time and attention than the welfare of their family,—by men whose bills for tobacco and other extras do not surprise them in the least; but if new paper for a room, or white drapery for a window, is spoken of, then financial ruin stares them in the face. This class of people are neither few nor small. Almost every town in New England has its share, though, thanks to the influence of the Press and the force of example, that share is yearly becoming less.

But among that class of farmers who have fitted up neat and convenient dwellings, where comfort and taste have been consulted in furnishing the different apartments, how many of them really enjoy their homes, or reap the benefit of this outlay of time and money. *Home* is, most emphatically, woman's province; and is it wise for her to keep her parlor closed and darkened, except on great occasions? It is well for her to keep her books safely locked out of the her children's reach, lest they injure the costly bindings? Is it right for her to compel the family to take their meals beside the kitchen stove in summer, for fear of injury to the dining-room carpet? Is she *true* to the best interests of her children when she throws away the moss or flowers they have gathered with childish enthusiasm, because of the litter they make?

Home is the place where we should *live*, not merely *stay;* a place to *use*, not to shut up and label "hands off." Throw open your windows, then, when the soft winds of summer ask admittance. Let in the sunlight and the flowers. Make your home so bright and cheerful that your family will think it the brightest place in the "wide, wide world." Make it a place to be remembered in after years by your children, as the nursery of their truest principles and highest hopes,—a place that shall be enshrined in their memory as the truest type of what a home should be. Then, perchance, in the future it shall be sung of *our* homes, as England's gifted one sung of hers,—a song that has hallowed them forever.

"The cottage homes of England,
By thousands on her plains,
They are smiling o'er the silvery brooks
And round the hamlet-fanes.
Through glowing orchards forth they peep,
Each from its nook of leaves,
And fearless there the lowly sleep
As a bird beneath her eaves.

* * * * * * *

And green forever be the groves,
And bright the flowery sod,
Where first the child's glad spirit loves
Its country and its God."

Rutland Co., Vt., 1861. MRS. S. A. G.

EXPRESSION OF DRESS.—Women are more like flowers than we think. In their adornments they express their natures, as the flowers do in their petals and colors. Some women are like the modest daisies and violets; they never feel better than when dressed in a morning wrapper. Others are not themselves unless they can flame out in gorgeous dyes, like the tulip or blush rose. Who has not seen women just like lilies? We know several marigolds and poppies. There are women fit only for velvets, like the dahlias; others are graceful and airy, like azaleas. Now and then you see hollyhocks and sunflowers. When woman are free to dress as they like, uncontrolled by others, and not limited by their circumstances, they do not fail to express their true characters, and dress becomes a form of expression very genuine and useful.

THE grave is indeed hallowed, when the grass of the church-yard can cover all memory save that of love.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

RETROSPECTIVE.

BY JOHN WARD ALLEN

I THOUGHT in life's bright spring
That sorrow's cloud my way would darken never.—
That friendship's flowers, instead of withering,
Would live forever.

I gathered bright heart flowers,
Which, like the stars that gem the sky above us,
Are sent to light these saddened hearts of ours,
To light, to love us.

One was a priceless pearl,
I called it love, 'twas near me morn and even,
With azure eye, rose cheek, and sunny curl,
The gift of heaven.

The present knew no gloom,
The future blighting care seemed not to cumber;
And joy lights, dancing to my life's far tomb,
I could not number.

Earth seemed a Paradise,
And all were angels sent from heaven to grace it,
So fair, so beautiful,— oh, why did vice
At all deface it?

But life's glad spring went by,
And summer came with its golden glory,
The birds of friendship sang, and heaven saw I,
Around, before me

* * * * * * *

My burdened lyre be hushed!
For while I sing, sad thoughts are coming o'er,
Like fallen spirits that, by grief heart-crushed,
Are joyous never!

Hidden Vale, 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

EARTHLY GLORY PASSES AWAY.

AS we glance over the history of the past, we see that upon all beauty and grandeur, power and glory, has been enstamped passing away; that however great or splendid the achievements of art or ambition have been, the story of their evanescence is soon told,—the destroyer has marked them for his own.

Kingdoms and nations that have arisen and flourished in dazzling splendor, whose wide-spread power has held millions of men in awe and admiration, and whose potent arm has seemed resistless, are now sunk in eternal night! Cities of surpassing grandeur and magnificence have existed, whose power and might the nations of the earth have respected, and princes have dreaded. But the relics of their former greatness too sadly tell us, they were, but they are not. Tyre is no more. Thebes, of the hundred gates, now awful in ruins, is but another of the countless monuments of past greatness and glory. Athens' temples and towers no longer cast their beautiful shadows in the dim twilight, nor first glitter in the golden light of morning. The stately halls which were once vocal with the thunder of the Philippics, are silent in the grave of the past. Her numerous splendid architectural structures, that, for elegance of design, exquisite style and harmony of arrangement, were the admiration of the world, have been the prey of time. Her proud pillars, and almost breathing, speaking statues, seem to bewail her former glory, as affection sighs over the tomb of departed worth. Ay, Athens, the pride of Greece, the nursery of literature, the pattern of elegance and refinement, the model of perfect taste, has passed away. And Greece herself, "lovely Greece," where is she? With her refinements, her splendors, her liberties, social, civil, and political, she is slumbering in the grave.

When we contemplate those systems of government which have exerted an extensive and sometimes beneficial influence upon the world at large, and those nations whose advancement in science and the arts has been greatest, we are led to pause, and wonder, that they, too, should be susceptible of dissolution. Where are now the Persian, the Macedonian, and the Roman Empires? The Kingdom of CYRUS has passed away. The Empire of the world-conquering Prince has suffered a like adverse fate. And the Roman Empire,—that most splendid prize for which aspirants to power ever contended, has fallen, obedient to the mandate—"pass ye away." Possessed of a territory stretching from the Tigris to the Ocean, and from the Northern Sea to the deserts of Africa, and of a power commensurate to her almost exhaustless resources of wealth, this mighty Empire may truly be said to have been the Queen of the then known world. But amidst all her luxuries, splendors, and glories, a moral canker was doing the work of destruction. Corruption had long been preying upon her vitals before its effects were apparent. But a sequence is inseparable from its adequate cause. The star of Roman glory culminated,—it declined,—and as it slowly faded and went down, that vast but fated Empire gradually deteriorated to a point of moral and political degradation at which Humanity may justly weep. Well and truly may it have been said that the "Mighty had fallen." But the fall of Rome was rather a suicide than the work of Barbarians.

And is a similar destiny awaiting our own beloved Republic? Is she to be another who shall have fallen by her own hand? Shall opulence and luxurious ease enervate her people? Shall selfish interests, or partisan feelings, and the corrupt examples of her statesmen, cause them to relax their exertions upon those questions which are of vital importance to her well-being? Shall avarice, and an over-weaning Ambition,—usual, and characteristic sins of Republics,—united to extensive power, embolden her to impunity in Crime, which shall be visited upon her with fearful retribution? Shall these combined influences diminish the vigor of her frame, and finally complete her overthrow?

The elements of a moral grandeur were here inherent, and the germs of a rational freedom were here planted, whose appropriate development would have constituted the truest, the noblest nation the world has witnessed. Are these to be crushed out, to be buried in oblivion? Are the hopes which the lovers of Freedom throughout the world have cherished, to be frustrated forever? Instead of being the admiration of even the opponents of Republicanism throughout Christendom, are we to become their jeer? Are our national sins *soon* to meet retributive justice? Ah! we are wedded to guilt, and in the blindness of passion permitted to raise a suicidal hand? The first stride in our national decadence seems already taken. Said the immortal WEBSTER, "I desire not to behold what is behind the curtain of Disunion." But that curtain is now lifting, and beyond, the distant horizon reveals the dark waves of the Stygian waters. Ah! My Country! my loved, my glorious Country! *Must* thou be plunged beneath those inky billows? *Must* the sad words—"*Sic transit gloria mundi*," be said of thee? May Almighty GOD avert the threatened fate.

Sumner, Iowa, 1861. HARRIET M. GRIFFITH.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

WISDOM OF YOUNG AMERICA.

AMONG the many striking traits of character which are exhibited by that enterprising individual, Young America, none are more strongly marked than his contempt for, and disregard of, the opinions of his superiors. He clings with wonderful pertinacity to the doctrine that each generation is wiser than its predecessors, and so far does he carry out his ideas in practice, that his self-sufficiency, and confidence in his own abilities, have become celebrated in lands other than our own, and have well nigh passed into a proverb.

Whether he is really wiser than his forefathers, I will leave philosophers to determine, since they appear to be manifesting great interest in the subject, and indulging in speculations on the amount of wisdom future ages are likely to possess, if knowledge increases in such a fearful ratio. Old women, too, shake their heads dubiously, but being less versed in such abstruse calculations, are sorely puzzled to arrive at any definite conclusion, and although they generally lay claim to great dexterity in predicting that which is to happen, in this case they are forced to confess that they are wholly in the dark. For our own part, however, we are inclined to the belief, that they base their conjectures upon an erroneous foundation, and that Young America is not so remarkably wise after all. By this we do not mean any deficiency in capacity, or intellectual attainments, but lack of that undue amount of wisdom which he lays claim to.

He evidently does not go upon the principle that "worth makes the man," for he thinks that when he can raise a beard, and sport a beaver, he will be a man to all intents and purposes, and therefore he shaves and anoints desperately to acquire the one, and treasures up his loose change to invest in the other. Having secured these indispensable preliminaries, he takes his place, without the least hesitation, in the ranks of manhood, especially if he can boast the additional accomplishment of chewing and smoking. As soon as he arrives at an age in which the mind is most susceptible of improvement, he wisely concludes that he has become too old to attend school, and that it is more befitting a young gentleman, such as he is, to fall in love like GIL BLAS with some romantic maiden, or else drive fast horses, play cards, and indulge occasionally in a glass of something stronger than nature's beverage.

It seems to us that Young America could find a better way of displaying his wisdom than in the modes specified above. Let him pause and consider whether he would not earn a better title to the name by applying himself to some useful branch of industry, and storing up knowledge in his leisure moments, than by wasting his best days in idleness and folly. A day in the vigor and sprightliness of youth is worth several in the plodding slowness of age. The spring-time of life is the time for action, when the limbs are active, and the mind is quick to receive impressions. What is learned then is seldom forgotten, but becomes, as it were, a part of our very selves, which is not the case with those who defer the acquisition of knowledge till their thoughts are distracted with the cares of manhood. Those men who have been renowned in every age of wisdom have been almost universally examples of industry in youth. They realized the value of those golden moments which flit away never to return, and which, if neglected, or misspent, throw a shade of life long regret over the soul.

We are afraid that our young friend's opinions will undergo a change one of these days, but unfortunately it will be when it is too late to profit by it. Often have we heard men complain bitterly of what they termed their foolishness when young, and sigh over the mistaken fondness of parents, and indulgence of teachers, which caused them to struggle through life, hampered by the defects of their early education, disheartened by the future, and mournfully recalling the sadly neglected past. There is much truth in the trite maxim, "Young folks think old folks are fools, but old folks *know* young folks to be so," and we would seriously commend it to the attention of our fast young friends. It is rather humiliating, to be sure, but then we must remember that it is the consciousness of inferiority, and the desire of excellence, which lead to persevering exertions and final triumph, and that the indispensable preliminary of making our young friend apply himself to the pursuit of true wisdom, is a settled conviction of his want of that desirable possession. Therefore, if he is really wise, he will neglect no opportunity of improvement, remembering that he has but one life to live,—only one season of youth to improve or waste. A very few years will show who are the wise ones, and indeed it requires no miraculous power to be able to point them out now. Will they be the indolent, the ease-loving, and fast, or the industrious, energetic, and the studious. Kind reader, we leave to you the decision.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1861. CORUS.

SUCCESS MAKES ENEMIES.—They who are eminently successful in business, or who achieve greatness, or even notoriety in any pursuit, must expect to make enemies. So prone to selfishness, to petty jealousy and sordid envy, is poor human nature, that whoever becomes distinguished is sure to be a mark for the malicious spite of those who, not deserving success themselves, are galled by the merited triumph of the more worthy. Moreover, the opposition which originates in such despicable motives, is sure to be of the most unscrupulous character; hesitating at no iniquity, descending to the shabbiest littleness. Opposition, if it be honest and manly, is not in itself undesirable. The competitor in life's struggle who is of the true metal, deprecates not opposition of an honorable character, but rather rejoices in it. It is only injustice or meanness which he deprecates and despises; and it is this which the successful must meet, proportioned in bitterness, oft-times, to the measure of success which excites it.

NIGHT AND REST.—It is night, and here is home. Gathered under the quiet roof, elders and children lie alike at rest. In the midst of a great peace and calm the stars look out from the heavens. The silence is peopled with the past; sorrowful remorses for sins and shortcomings—memories of passionate joys and griefs rise out of their grave, both now alike calm and sad. The town and the fair landscape sleep under the starlight, wreathed in the autumn mists. Twinkling among the houses a light keeps watch here and there, in what may be a sick chamber or two. The clock tolls sweetly in the silent air. Here night and rest. An awful sense of thanks makes the heart swell, and the head bow, as I pass to my room through the sleeping house, and feel as though a hushed blessing were upon it.

THE law should be to the sword what the handle is to the hatchet; it should direct the stroke and temper the force.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

LIFE.

BY CARLIE MAYNE

ON yonder mossy bank a violet blooms,
Filling the morning air with rich perfume,—
It opened with the morn, and died at noon.

A dewdrop glistens on a rose's breast,
The gentle zephyrs lulling it to rest,
But when the sun shines warm, its life is past.

A paper boat is launched upon a stream,
Its snowy sails a moment brightly gleam,
Then it has vanished, like a passing dream

A glorious rainbow decks the summer sky,
Sweet bow of promise sent to cheer the eye
'Tis faded when the rain storm has passed by.

So man a few brief years may tread life's shore,
But soon the soul shall burst its prison door,
And we shall walk earth's sunny vales no more.

Ashtabula, Ohio, 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

A WORLD OF CHANGE.

HOW true the saying, "This is a world of change," and the slow notes of the tolling bell daily verify it. To-day you hear the sweet warbling and the little pattering step of lovely cherubs. To-morrow you listen in vain—for the musical voices which came trilling on the balmy air are hushed by the Angel whose mission is to seal the lips, close the expressive eyes, still the restless limbs, gather the departed souls, and bear them to Him who made them. To-day you see the maiden with the flush of health mantling her cheek, the light, quick step, and the hopeful trusting heart of youth. To-morrow that cheek is blanched, that footfall meets not your ear, that heart quickens not its beating at your approach, for Death called her, and you lay the new sleeper down to rest. To-day you press the hand of manhood, you look in the beaming eye, you brush the hair from the broad brow, you twine the arms lovingly around the neck, you listen to accents of tenderness, and you weave for yourself a happy, golden future. To-morrow the hands are folded, the light from the beaming eye has gone out, the hair is smoothly combed back, the lips return not your fond pressure, the golden fabric you wove is rent. With an anguish of which you never dreamed, you see him lowered down, down, to his earth-bed, and you turn away only to know your heart lies buried also. To-day you harken to the old man's tremulous voice. Age has whitened his locks, deepened many lines on his cheek, but a smile lurks in his undimmed eye, quiet happiness sits on the throne of his heart. His mind reverts to youth, and he relates with animation some incident of that period in which he was a participator. Perhaps it is his first battle. His picture is so vividly drawn that you seem to hear the clashing of steel and the roar of artillery, the clatter of horses' feet and the intermingling of voices as each party gives its orders. To-morrow you vainly wait for the words to flow, for the hand to be laid softly on your head. Death's signet sits upon the lips of your grandfather, and with a sad heart you yield him to its embrace.

To-day you leave the home of childhood. The changes which have been are barely perceptible, because you have changed with them. To-morrow you return. Perhaps you may meet here and there a familiar form, but the many are strangers. You exclaim, can this be the home from which I so lately passed? What changes. Old friends gone, and new faces all about me. A glance in the mirror reveals to you the fact that you, too, have changed. The youthful, erect form you carried away is bending; the smooth, placid brow has many furrows it did not then wear; the glossy hair has threads of gray; a look of care wreathes itself around your temples. You have assumed the mother crown, and you wear its laurels with a quiet dignity. You are astonished, and a strange mixture of thoughts take possession of your mind, as you survey yourself in the mirror of time, and repeat, a world of change is this.

Change is one of Heaven's mandates, I know, but when I think it has invaded my home, and left there its impress,—when I think of the lines thickly and deeply engraved on my mother's forehead,—of the silver threads which cluster around and shade my father's brow, of my sister and brother, who long since stepped across the threshold of Time,—of another fondly cherished sister, now deformed for life,—of the scattered members of our circle,—the tears well up and fall like rain-drops from my eyes, and I am sad, unspeakably sad, and only the thought, "He doeth all things well," assuages or soothes my grief.

There is a world where change never enters,—where there is no restless longings for the dear ones gone,—where the weary, aching heart is lulled to rest on the bosom of CHRIST. In that world may it be my happy lot, when Death touches my heartstring, to find a welcome reception. KATY.

Genoa, N. Y., 1861.

KEEPING THE SABBATH.—God *is* revered by the services which multitudes pay him, and delight to pay him, on the Sabbath, as they take an offering and come into his courts. We look upon these Sabbath gatherings over all the land, as the evidence of a deep-seated, far-reaching piety, which clings to the arm of God as the nation's only fortress and refuge. They are the exponent of a devotional sentiment which the world cannot smother or repress. They are a hopeful sign of good, present and future, springing from the liberal hand of a Father who loves to pour benefactions down in answer to the adoration of beseeching souls. And so long as the Sabbath is observed in its integrity, we will not tremble for the safety of the ark either of our religious or civil liberties.

THE LOVE OF GOLD.—The treasure of some men is gold, and the love of it grows so strong as to become idolatrous. Such men never rise above the merest drudgery in the world. They eat and drink, but it is to enable them successfully to toil on. Morning, noon, and night, it is the same drudging slavery and submission to the cravings of a vicious appetite. There is not one noble sentiment or feeling can live in their heart, because the lust of gain fills it so completely as to leave no room for anything else. They can do nothing but grovel, like an earth-worm, eating dust, and casting out their slime, in order to form a pathway along which to crawl. It is pitiable and sad to think of, but it is a sight only too often seen in this sin stricken world of ours.

I HAVE known a good old man, who, when he heard of any one that had committed some notorious offence, was wont to say within himself, "He fell to-day, so I may to-morrow."—*Bernard.*

The Traveler.

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number Four.

Mexican vaquero—Spanish mustangs, or wild horses—Riding a mustang at the fair—His attempts to unhorse his rider—He is turned loose and recaptured by his pursuers with the lasso—Process repeated and re-repeated—The wild horse subdued—Mexican and Californian national sports—Catching the rooster—"Riding for the half dollar"—Thrilling excitement and great amusement—Shock of an earthquake

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec 1, 1860

THE California *vaquero* is, certainly, a useful specimen of the *genus homo*. In a country where fences are rare, and fencing timber scarce, where stables and barns are almost unknown, the swarthy *vaquero* does duty as fence and cattle pen. He prevents the herds of the rancheros (farmers) from straying, and protects them, mounted with spur and *lasso* on horse, against the predatory excursions of coyotes, wolves, and bifurcated cattle thieves. The *vaquero* is an ancient California institution, and like all the old features of the country, his glory is fast passing away. He is not now the gay and happy creature he was in "days lang syne," ere the soil knew the footsteps of the Yankee, or the country felt the beneficent sway of Anglo Saxon rule.

During the early settlement of California, and for a long time previous, immense herds of wild horses roamed over the Tulare and San Joaquin plains. These *mustangs* (wild horses,) were *feræ naturæ*,—had no owners, acknowledged allegiance to none. From these herds, the old Spaniards were accustomed to replenish their horse stock as it gave out, and a more spirited and hardy race of animals was never known. They were rode down and taken with the *lasso* by the *vaqueros*. *Mustangs*, after having been broken to harness, readily commanded from $25 to $40 per head. At present, the stock of wild, unowned horses, is nearly run out. No herds of *mustangs* exist, to test the prowess of the *vaquero*. There are no mines of horse flesh, into which he may plunge with the *riata* and *lasso*, and find the wherewithal to recuperate his fortunes and the means to minister to his passions for *monte* and cock-fighting. With the exception of the annual *rodeos*, at which the rancheros assemble to affix the brand of ownership to their live stock, there is now but little opportunity for the *vaquero* to exhibit his skill, and shine forth in all his glory. Another decade of years and they will disappear.

At one of the California district fairs, we recently witnessed (to us,) the exciting and novel exhibition of the *vaquero* mounting with boot and spur a *mustang*, never before treated to a saddle and rider. He was as wild as a mountain buck. His attempts to unhorse his rider were unceasing and labored. He would thrust down his head, bow up his back, and jump upward and forward, and come down with a vengeance that would almost make the earth tremble. After several unsuccessful attempts at leaping, and roaring, and jumping, he broke into a furious run, or race, of several hundred yards, pursued by five or six swarthy *vaqueros*, on fleet but trained *mustangs*. As soon as they came up to him he stopped short and repeated his first attempts at jumping high off from the ground several times, coming down with braced limbs, and thus jarring seriously his rider, and nearly snapping his neck from off his body. Failing in this attempt to free himself, he whirled, and with foaming mouth, distended nostrils, and glaring eyeballs, returned with furious speed over his track, followed by his pursuers, and after leaping fences and ditches brought up against the broadside of a building. Here *mustang* halted, and apparently seemed to go into a cool calculation as to his chances of success,—meditating upon the ways and means how best he might accomplish the feat of unhorsing his bold rider. While the brain of the *mustang* was belabored with this problem, we thought we could discover similar mental conflict in the countenance of the daring *vaquero*. Soon they all broke from their moorings, and, like a fleet before a furious gale, flew past us, and away they rode for half a mile, when the wild horse jumped, whirled, made a circuit, and soon came dashing past the gaping, excited throng, and brought up once more against a row of drinking saloons, and made a dead halt. He was much sobered, and doubtless felt chagrined to think that he was a victim, instead of a victor. He was now turned loose. With evident satisfaction, he reared his tail and dashed off at full speed. A new act was now to open—the *mustang* must be *lassoed*—so a half dozen *vaqueros* with *lasso* in hand, put after him in hot speed. They soon came up to him and threw a *lasso* over his head. With the other end wound firmly around the horn of the saddle, the rider whirled and rode back from whence he came. Soon the slack of the *lasso* was used up, a *snubbing* process ensued, the *mustang* was thrown furiously upon his side, where he lay humbled, and, withal, sorely disappointed. Now he was permitted to escape again,—then pursued and *lassoed*—then let loose and then re-captured, when he was led up before the crowd, all dripping with sweat, and so completely exhausted and subdued, that a child could have led him anywhere. To us it was rare and novel sport, and was keenly relished by the assembled thousands.

Mexicans and Californians have but few national sports, and those not of the most refined and intellectual character. Horse-racing, card-playing, cock-fighting, practicing with the *lasso*, and bull-fighting, constitute about the sum total of their amusements. Most of their out-door amusements are engaged in, on saint, or especial feast-days, when the population assemble at some point, and there indulge their particular tastes to their hearts' content. One of their amusements is denominated catching the rooster. The bird is buried partially in the sand, his head and neck only being uncovered. The game is, for a horseman, *while under full speed*, to pluck the fowl from his unpleasant roost. It is not every one that can accomplish this feat, and frequently an unlucky or unskillful *caballero* is unhorsed in the attempt.

During the Fair above alluded to, we were agreeably diverted by a Spanish amusement termed "riding for the half-dollar." A half-dollar was placed in the race-way, elevated some two inches above the surface. The feat consisted in seizing it with the hand while riding *at full speed*. Some five or six Spaniards entered the arena with spirited horses. Only one rode at a time. The first rider started, spurring his horse into a furious gallop, and when opposite the tempting silver, he swayed and swooped over his flexible body, seized the prize, and readjusting himself again in his saddle, held up the shining silver amid the shouts of the populace. Another coin was furnished by the spectators, and a second contestant started *full speed* for the tempting bait. When opposite the coin, he made his plunge, missed, and came near being unhorsed. A thrill of horror seized every beholder. He finally recovered his seat and returned to repeat the attempt, but with no better success than at first. A third started his horse into a keen race, and at the proper moment, dove for the luring piece. He was carried several yards with his body at right angles with the under side of his horse, and only by the most desperate exertions did he regain his seat in his saddle, and that, too, unattended with the half-dollar. A sense of relief came over the minds of all as he righted up from his perilous position. Practice doubtless has much to do with success, for while one competitor bore off the coin five out of six attempts, nearly all the other riders failed four out of every five trials. Although it was attended with danger to those immediately engaged in it, yet it afforded much merriment to several thousand spectators.

Recently, in Humbolt county, the shock of an earthquake was sensibly experienced. Several houses were moved some feet off their foundations, dinner plates were sent ajar, chimneys toppled to their fall, dogs were disturbed in their kennels, children ran wildly to their mamas, wives embraced their husbands affectionately, and a distinguished son of Esculapius had several glass jars filled with precious elixirs, thrown down, broken and contents entirely lost. Nothing more serious occurred on this memorable occasion. Shocks of earthquakes are not uncommon in California, as this city can testify.

G. E. R.

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THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON city is about four and a half miles in length, and about two and a half in breadth, stretching along the banks of the Potomac, from the eastern branch to Rock Creek, in a direction from southeast to northwest. Its area is 3016 acres, its circumference fourteen miles. The streets running north and south are named numerically, as 1st street, 2d street, &c; those running east and west, alphabetically, as A street, B street, &c. This monotony is agreeably relieved by magnificent avenues from 130 to 160 feet wide, cutting them diagonally. The avenues are named after the several states of the Union, and radiate from the Capitol, as a center, forming at intervals throughout the city triangular lots, tastefully enclosed, and adorned with trees and shrubbery.

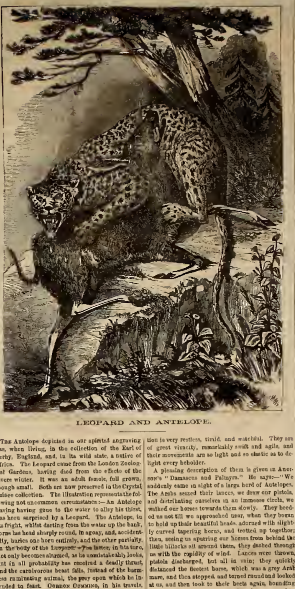
The depot at which strangers arrive from the north and west is immediately north of the Capitol, situated at the corner of New Jersey Avenue and C street, from which the approach to the principal thoroughfare, Pennsylvania Avenue, lies southwest. Along this avenue are the principal hotels. After securing a hotel, or boarding house, the stranger directs his attention first of all to the Capitol. The principal approach to this edifice from Pennsylvania Avenue at the head of which it stands, is through a well spread lawn of very ample dimensions, encircled with flower beds, and tastefully ornamented with clumps and avenues of stately trees, in the midst of which sparkling fountains are constantly sending forth their gushing melody, and coolness to the air. Following the course of one or the other of these shady avenues, he will gain, by a flight of steps, the approach to the Capitol, by its west entrance. Having reached the ample terrace surrounding the building, he will stop for a moment to admire the scene presented to his view, and take in for the first time a partial outline of the city, which from this point is pronounced by those who have a lively conception for the beautiful, and among others by Baron Von Humboldt, to present one of the finest panoramic views in the world.

Immediately beneath his feet he will overlook the lawn through which he has just passed, containing thirty acres, and enclosed by an iron railing more than a mile in length, with the naval monument in a basin of water, within a few yards of him, while in the distance, spread out like a map, will lie the city, with its avenues, its walks, and its various public edifices extending to the picturesque heights of Georgetown on the one side, and the beautiful Potomac river—here upwards of a mile in width—on the other. Beyond the Potomac he will see the Virginia shore, from a high slope of which, Arlington, the seat of G. W. P. Custis, is visible, and less distinctly, the antiquated and venerable town of Alexandria, Va., about eight miles distant.

From this point he will perceive that the Capitol furnishes a nucleus from which the avenues radiate in all directions. Pennsylvania Avenue, the principal one, being terminated by the grounds surrounding the President's mansion, which furnishes another nucleus for the radiation of some of the avenues. Nothing can exceed the beauty of this scene at sunset, when the western sky is lighted up with the gorgeous tints of the rainbow, and the whole avenue is bathed in its golden light. The Capitol consists of the original building as designed by Hallet, Headfield, Hoban, and Statcobe, covering one and a half acres of ground; and the new wings designed by the Government architect, T. U. Walter, and covering two and three quarters acres of ground, making the extent of the entire building four and a quarter acres. The original building is 352½ feet long in front; the wings 121 feet deep; the east projection, containing the portico and steps, 65; the west projection, containing the library, 86; the north and south wings, containing the Senate Chamber and Hall of Representatives, are 70 feet high to the top of balustrade; the Senate Chamber is 74 feet long and 42 feet high; the Hall of Representatives, 90 feet long and 60 feet high, both surmounted by domes. The Rotunda is 96 feet in diameter, and was surmounted by a grand dome 145 feet above the level of the ground, which has been removed to make place for another still more magnificent, which was designed by Mr. Walter, and will be over 300 feet high from the level of the ground.

The new wings are to the north and south of the original structure, and are intended for a Senate Chamber and Hall of Representatives; each wing is 238 by 140 feet. The erection of these additions has rendered necessary the enlargement of the grounds north and south, and at no distant day the Capitol park and gardens will contain about sixty acres. The building fronts toward the east, so that the principal part of the city, and all the public buildings, are behind the Capitol. The stranger ascending Capitol Hill from Pennsylvania Avenue, enters the building by the western door, and ascends a flight of steps leading to the Rotunda, which is a magnificent apartment, having cost $2,000,000, occupying the center of the main building, and lighted from above. There are four entrances to this apartment, one leading to the Senate Chamber, one to the Hall of Representatives, one to the eastern portico, and one to the passage by which the stranger has just entered it. The panels over these doors are enriched by sculpture, in bas-relief—that over the one leading to the Senate containing a sketch of a treaty of Penn with the Indians; that over the one leading to the House, of a rencontre between Daniel Boone and the Indians; that over the one leading to the eastern, the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth; and that over the west, the preservation of Capt. Smith by Pocahontas. The sides of the Rotunda are divided into larger panels, for the most part filled with historical paintings. Four of these, painted by Trumbull, represent the Declaration of Independence, the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne, the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, and the resignation of his commission by Washington at Annapolis. An additional panel contains a painting by Chapman, representing the baptism of Pocahontas; another, the departure of the Mayflower, by Weir; another, the landing of Columbus, by Vanderlyn; and the last, De Soto discovering the Mississippi, by Powell—all of them splendid works of art.

The south door of the Rotunda leads into a circular vestibule, surmounted by a small dome, leading to the lobby of the Hall of Representatives. From the lobby the entrance to the galleries of the House are gained; that immediately in front of the door, leading to the gentlemen's gallery, while two at the extremity of the lobbies open into the gallery set apart for ladies and the guests of members of the House. The floor of the House is appropriated to the use of members, and persons privileged by the rules of the House.—*Auburn Union.*



LEOPARD AND ANTELOPE.

THE Antelope depicted in our spirited engraving was, when living, in the collection of the Earl of Derby, England, and, in its wild state, a native of Africa. The Leopard came from the London Zoological Gardens, having died from the effects of the severe winter. It was an adult female, full grown, though small. Both are now preserved in the Crystal Palace collection. The illustration represents the following not uncommon circumstance:—An Antelope having having gone to the water to allay his thirst, has been surprised by a Leopard. The Antelope, in its fright, whilst darting from the water up the bank, turns his head sharply round, in agony, and, accidentally, buries one horn entirely, and the other partially, in the body of the Leopard. The latter, in its turn, not only becomes alarmed, as he unmistakeably looks, but in all probability has received a deadly thrust, and the carnivorous beast fails, instead of the harmless ruminating animal, the prey upon which he intended to feast. GORDON CUMMING, in his travels, relates a similar circumstance of a lion which was killed by the horns of the Oryx, a large wild Antelope of Southern Africa.

There are several species of Antelope. All, except two or three, inhabit the torrid zone, and that portion of the temperate zone bordering on the tropics. They are generally of a most elegant form. Their disposition is very restless, timid, and watchful. They are of great vivacity, remarkably swift and agile, and their movements are so light and so elastic as to delight every beholder.

A pleasing description of them is given in ANDERSON'S "Damascus and Palmyra." He says:—"We suddenly came in sight of a large herd of Antelopes. The Arabs seized their lances, we drew our pistols, and distributing ourselves in an immense circle, we walked our horses towards them slowly. They heeded us not till we approached near, when they began to hold up their beautiful heads, adorned with slightly curved tapering horns, and trotted up together; then, seeing us spurring our horses from behind the little hillocks all around them, they dashed through us with the rapidity of wind. Lances were thrown, pistols discharged, but all in vain; they quickly distanced the fleetest horse, which was a grey Arab mare, and then stopped, and turned round and looked at us, and then took to their heels again, bounding over the ground in such a way that they appeared to fly rather than to run."

The fleetness of the Antelope was proverbial in the earliest times, and the roe is still "swift on the mountains." The light Gazelle, with its beaming eye and graceful figure, has ever been a favorite with the poets of the East.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

BIG WAVES.

WHEN the great ocean is disturbed, it forms surface waves, which are sometimes of great magnitude. In a gale, such waves have been more than once measured, and it is found that their extreme height from the top to the deepest depression of large storm waves, has been nearly fifty feet, their length being from four to six hundred yards, and their rate of motion through the water about half a mile a minute. Such waves, breaking over an obstacle of any kind, or mingling strangely with the clouded atmosphere raging above, are the wildest, grandest, and most terrible phenomena of nature. When they approach land, they break up into much smaller bodies of water, but these are often lifted by shoals and obstructed by rocks till they are thrown up in masses of many tuns to a height of more than a hundred feet. The tidal wave is another phenomenon of water motion of a somewhat different kind, producing an alternate rise and fall of the water over all parts of the ocean every twelve hours.

In addition to the true waves there are also many definite streams or currents of water conveying large portions of the sea from one latitude to another, modifying the temperature of the adjacent land, and producing a mixture of the waters at the surface or at some depth which cannot but be extremely conducive to the general benefit of all living beings. Storm tides, or those waves which occasionally rush without any pause along narrow and confined seas or up funnel-shaped inlets, have occasionally proved disastrous to a fearful extent. Thus it is recorded that upward of one hundred thousand persons perished in the year 1832, and again in 1842, in this way, numerous complete villages and towns being washed away by a wave advancing from the North Sea over the low lands of Holland. Between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the ordinary spring tide often rises to a height of one hundred feet, sweeping away the cattle feeding on the shore.—*Dickens' "All the Year Round."*

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THE UPS AND DOWNS OF STATES.

THE following interesting table was prepared by C. T. Pooler, of Utica, and published in the Herald of that city. It will be seen that New York commenced as the fifth State in 1790, rose to the third position in 1800, to the second in 1810, and from 1820, when she displaced Virginia, has been the "Empire State." Pennsylvania has held the most even position in the jostling rivalry to gain the head of the column. Several Western States have rapidly ascended. The entire table is interesting:

	1790	1800	1810	1820.	1830	1840.	1850.	1860	Per cent. increase last decade
1	Va.	Va	Va.	N. Y	N Y.	N. Y	N. Y.	N Y	24
2	Pa.	Pa.	N Y.	Va.	Pa.	Pa.	Pa.	Pa.	.26
3	N C	N. Y	Pa.	Pa.	Va.	O	O	O	22
4	Mas.	N. C.	N C.	N. C.	O	Va.	Va.	Ill.	98
5	N. Y.	Mas.	Mas.	O	N C	Ten	Ten.	Va.	.12
6	Md.	S C.	S C.	Ky.	Ky.	Ky.	Mas.	Ind.	36
7	S. C.	Md.	Ky	Mas.	Ten.	N. C.	Ind.	Mass.	23
8	Ct.	Ct.	Md	S C.	Mas.	Mas.	Ky	Mo	70
9	N. J.	Ky	Ct.	Ten.	S. C	Ga.	Ga.	Ten	14
10	N. H.	N. J.	Ten.	Md	Ga.	Ind	N. C	Ky	18
11	Me	N. H.	Ga.	Ga.	Md	S. C	Ill.	Ga.	19
12	Vt.	Ga.	N. J	Me	Me.	Ala.	Ala.	N C.	16
13	Ga.	Vt.	O.	N. J.	Ind.	Me.	Mo.	Ala.	.23
14	Ky.	Me	Me.	Ct.	N. J.	Ill	S. C	Miss.	.48
15	R. I	Ten.	Vt.	N. H.	Ala.	Md.	Miss.	Wis.	1 48
16	Del.	R. I.	N. H	Vt.	Ct.	Mo	Me.	Mich.	89
17	Ten.	Del	R. I.	La.	Vt.	Miss.	Md	S. C.	06
18		O	La.	Ind.	N H	N J	La.	Io.	2 84
19		Miss.	Del.	Ala.	La.	La.	N J	Md	16
20		Ind.	Miss.	R. I.	Ill.	Ct.	Mich.	N J	38
21			Ind.	Miss.	Mo	Vt.	Ct.	La.	23
22			Ma.	Del.	Miss.	N H.	N. H.	Ma.	06
23			Ill	Mo	R. I	Mich.	Vt.	Tex.	1.82
24			Mich.	Ill	Del.	R. I.	Wis.	Ct.	24
25				Ark.	Fla.	Ark.	Tex.	Ark.	1 14
26				Mich.	Mich.	Del.	Ark.	Cal.	0.85
27					Ark.	Fla.	Io.	N H	02
28						Io	R. I.	Vt.	½
29						Wis.	Cal.	R. I.	18
30							Del	Min.	27 43
31							Fla.	Fla.	60
32								Kan	.
33								Del	22
34								Or	..

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CEMENT FOR AQUARIA.

MANY persons have attempted to make an aquarium, but have failed on account of the extreme difficulty in making the tank resist the action of water for any length of time. Below is a recipe for a cement that can be relied upon; it is perfectly free from anything that could injure the animals or plants; it sticks to glass, metal, wood, stone, etc., and hardens under water. I have tried, I think, a hundred different experiments with cements, and there is nothing like it. It is the same as that used in constructing the tanks at the Zoological Gardens, London, and is almost unknown in this country: One part, by measure, say a gill of litharge; one gill of plaster of Paris; one gill of dry white sand; one-third of a gill of finely powdered resin. Sift and keep corked tight till required for use, when it is to be made into a putty by mixing in boiled oil (linseed), with a little patent dryer added. Never use it after it has been mixed (that is, with the oil) over fifteen hours.

This cement can be used for marine as well as fresh-water aquaria, as it resists the action of salt-water. The tank can be used immediately, but it is best to give it three or four hours to dry.—*Architect's Journal.*

The Young Ruralist.

DRINKING WINE.

THIS is, decidedly, *the* wine-drinking age. One cannot call on a bride, or spend an evening with a friend, without having their temperance principles tried to the utmost. Indeed, the person who says no then, can most assuredly say it anywhere. For it is politeness at the present day to decide yourself what your guests shall partake of, and if you see they really do not wish it, you must urge it upon them until, from politeness, they accept, and then congratulate yourself upon your attainments in good manners. We have currant, raspberry, blackberry, and cherry wine, besides grape. The first varieties are within the reach of nearly every family, and now, in nearly all the pleasant homes in village and country, you will find one or more kinds of wine, and mothers and sisters are offering it to those who are dearer to them than life, never thinking that it may be the first step to a life that would pale their cheeks to mention.

The question to be decided in every thoughtful mind is, will this course of action (as some argue,) do away with intemperance, by satisfying the appetite with "harmless, home-made wine;" or will it only increase, and in many cases create, an appetite which will never be satisfied, but will continually cry for more, until its victim lies in a drunkard's grave? It becomes us to think of this subject, for we all have friends and relatives who are influenced by us, however we may wish to evade it. Are we willing to offer them the wine cup, and to accept it ourselves when, perhaps, we are leading them to certain ruin? Are we prepared to do this when we think of it seriously, and do not allow ourselves to be lead away and blinded by fashion? Those who sow the wind will assuredly reap the whirlwind, and methinks it will be a fearful harvest when mothers, wives and sisters see the ruin, for time and eternity, which wine-drinking has accomplished, and realize their agency in this matter.

Some are waking up to a realization of this evil, others are thoughtlessly following the prevailing fashion. Methinks in the weary life-struggle upon which we have all entered, there is a nobler calling, a holier office, than to be tempters of those who are weary and nearly fainting by the way. There are many discouragements and trials which loving hands cannot turn aside from our life-path, bringing days which are dark and dreary to all. Shall we, then, present another temptation, adding to it our voice, to make it all powerful? When the light of eternity shall dawn upon us, and we stand face to face with "Our Father," how joyful will be the reflection that our words and example have been a life-giving influence to others, and have encouraged, and perhaps lead them into paths of pleasantness and peace.

Bath, N. Y., 1861. JENNIE S.

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A GOOD AND A POOR COW.

FEW old farmers ever realize the difference in profit between keeping good and poor stock. The following from GOODALE'S *Principles of Breeding*, we command to the careful attention of every one who has the least idea of becoming a farmer, or of keeping even a cow. It should make an impression never to be forgotten:—"Let us reckon a little. Suppose a man wishes to buy a cow. Two are offered him, both four years old, and which might probably be serviceable for ten years to come. With the same food and attendance the first will yield for ten months in the year an average of five quarts per day—and the other for the same term will yield seven quarts, and of equal quality. What is the comparative value of each? The difference in yield is six hundred quarts per annum. For the purpose of this calculation we will suppose it worth three cents per quart—amounting to eighteen dollars. Is not the second cow, while she holds out to give it, as good as the first, and three hundred dollars at interest besides? If the first just pays for her food and attendance, the second, yielding two-fifths more, pays *forty per cent. profit* annually; and yet how many farmers having two such cows for sale would make more than ten, or twenty, or at most thirty dollars difference in the price? The profit from one is eighteen dollars a year—in ten years one hundred and eighty dollars, besides the annual accumulations of interest—the profit of the other is—nothing. If the seller has need to keep one, would he not be wiser to give away the first, than to part with the second for a hundred dollars?"

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THE FARMER AND THE CITIZEN.

WHEN a citizen, fresh from Dock square, or Milk street, comes out and buys land in the country, his first thought is to a fine outlook from his windows; his library must command a western view; a sunset every day, bathing the shoulder of Blue Hills, Wachusetts, and the peaks of Monadnoc and Uncanoonuc. What, thirty acres, and all this magnificence for fifteen hundred dollars! It would be cheap at fifty thousand. He proceeds at once, his eyes dim with tears of joy, to fix the spot for his corner-stone. But a man who is to level the ground, thinks it will take many hundred loads of gravel to fill the hollow to the road. The stone-maker who should build the well thinks he shall have to dig forty feet; the baker doubts he shall never like to drive up to the door; the practical neighbor cavils at the position of the barn; and the citizen comes to know that his predecessor, the farmer, built the house in the right spot for the sun and wind, the spring, and water-drainage, and the convenience to pasture, the garden, the field, and the road. So Dock square yields the point, and things have their own way.—*Emerson.*

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DOUBT is oftentimes Faith trying her little wings in the great air, and fluttering back to her earth-nest.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Strawberries, Raspberries, &c.—J. Knox.
New and timely Books—Mason Brothers.
Missouri Farms—Geo. S. Harris.
Extract of Tobacco—Fisher & Co.
Printing Ink—Lawson & Co.
Toledo Nurseries—Fahnestock & Baker.
Marblehead Mammoth Cabbage—Jas. J. H. Gregory.
Evergreen Trees—Fahnestock & Baker.
Amalgam Bells—M. C. Chadwick & Co.
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs—Fahnestock & Baker.
Downer's Prolific Seedling Strawberry—J. W. Briggs & Son.
New Grapes, New Strawberries—O. T. Hobbs.
Grape Vines—Fahnestock & Baker.
Cranberry Plants—Wm. H. Starr.
Copper Lightning Conductors—N. Brittan.
Reliable Agents Wanted.
Native Evergreens—W. Sibley.
Farm for Sale—Wm. Smith.
Orleans Co. Market Fair—D. N. Hatch, Pres't.
The Voyage to Europe—D. Appleton & Co.
Falley Seminary—John P. Griffin, Principal.
Shade Trees for Sale—Burr Botler.
What every Farmer needs—Saxton & Barker.
Raspberries, &c.—John S. Goold.
Honolulu Squash—John S. Goold.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Brown's Troches for Public Speakers and Singers.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MARCH 16, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

THE commissions of the new Cabinet officers have been signed. Mr. Seward was the first to enter upon the duties of his office at the State Department. Secretary Dix held over until the 9th inst., at the request of his successor, Gov. Chase. When Mr. Dix entered upon his duties, the Treasury was literally bankrupt. There were requisitions on the table from the Departments, which there were no means of paying, exceeding $1,900,000; fishing bounties imposed, amounting to nearly $450,000, and Treasury notes overdue, amounting to about $350,000—in all $2,700,000. These have all been paid. The accounts were stated in expectation of Mr. Chase's entrance on his duties, and they show balances in the hands of the Treasurer and disbursing officers, appliable to the current expenses of the government, exceeding $6,000,000. These, with the current receipts from customs, amounting to about $80,000 a day in coin, it is believed will enable the incoming administration to sustain itself without asking for further loans for a considerable length of time.

Messrs. Forsyth and Crawford, South Carolina Commissioners, have as yet made no official communication to the Administration, owing to the sickness of Secretary Seward, and an informal intimation that a little more time would be agreeable. The Commissioners have been actively occupied since their arrival in consultation and unofficial intercourse, having reference to the object of their commission. The subject of the collection of the revenues and the reinforcing of Fort Sumter, has not yet engaged the attention of the Cabinet. Great efforts are being made to effect a peaceful solution of the question of the forts and the revenues.

Ex-Secretary Floyd has published a statement vindicatory of the acceptances in favor of Russel, Majors & Co., and of their legality. Instead of being $6,000,000 of them outstanding, he shows there were only $600,000, and declares the contractors have secured these by the assignment of property ample for their protection, and that if the Government will permit the earnings of the Trains for 1861 to be appropriated to the acceptances, they will be liquidated in that way, without recourse to the assignments. It would seem, also, that the Government owes the contractors upwards of $500,000, which is equivalent to the cash value of the Indian trust bonds, of the abstraction of which Mr. Floyd repudiates all previous knowledge. He denounces the conduct and proceedings of the Select Committee with great severity, and says their sole object was political persecution and defamation.

At the Diplomatic meeting on the 6th inst., Mr. Lincoln made the following reply to an address made by M. Figaniere, in behalf of the Diplomatic Corps:

Gentlemen of the Diplomatic Body.—Please accept my sincere thanks for your kind congratulations. It affords me pleasure to confirm the confidence you generally express in the friendly disposition of the United States, through me, towards the Sovereigns and Governments respectively represented. With equal satisfaction, I accept the assurance you are pleased to give that the same disposition is reciprocated by your Sovereigns, your governments, and yourselves. Allow me to express the hope that these friendly relations may remain undisturbed, and also my fervent wishes for the health and happiness of yourselves personally.

The correspondence which reached the War Department on the 7th inst., shows that Gen. Twiggs received the order of Secretary Holt, relieving him from the command, three days before he surrendered. All the statements, therefore, representing that he was unable to ascertain the views of the Department, are entirely false. His treachery was deliberate and infamous.

The drafts drawn by Secretary Dix, on the Assistant Treasurer at New Orleans, to pay for work done on the Custom House, and also the drafts by Ex-Postmaster General King on the same office in connection with postal affairs, amounting to between two and three hundred thousand dollars, have been returned unpaid.

Dispatches from flag officer Stribling were received at the Navy Department on the 8th inst. He says that in consequence of the disturbed state of China, he has not, until January 1st, considered it prudent to send any vessel to the southward. The John Adams had sailed for Manilla, Siam and Singapore. The commerce of the United States with Siam, he says, is of considerable importance, and an occasional visit of a man-of-war to that country is advisable. At all the countries around the China Sea and Japan, the frequent presence of men-of-war is beneficial to our commerce, as well as to our countrymen residing there. He expected to go north with the Hartford and Saginaw.

Texas dates to the 26th ult., have been received. Texas forces under Col. Ford, accompanied by Commissioner Nichols, found at Brazos twenty soldiers under Lieut. Thompson, about twenty heavy guns, and plenty of artillery stores, ammunition, &c. Capt. Hill had privately withdrawn his light battery, and with his party was en route for Brazos, to destroy the gun carriages and movables there. On demanding of Capt. Hill the surrender of Fort Brown, he called Capt. Nichols and his men traitors, and sent to Fort Ringgold for two hundred men. Capt. Hill's men say that he is determined to defend Fort Brown to the last, and would not obey any order from General Twiggs to surrender. The troops at Fort Brown were in excellent health and spirits. Texas troops were being sent from Galveston to re-inforce Col. Ford, who was at Brownsville.

Important intelligence was received on the 9th inst., at the War Department, from Charleston. A messenger who left Fort Sumter on the afternoon of Tuesday last, reports that salt provisions remain for only 15 days, and that only a limited amount of vegetables is left in the fortress. Supplies of all kinds are running very low. Major Anderson, however, was still able to procure fresh meats and butter from the Charleston market.

U. S. Senate—Extra Session.

THE Vice-President laid before the Senate a letter from Mr. Chase, resigning his seat as Senator from Ohio, and asking him to have the goodness to make it known to the Senate and the Governor of Ohio. On motion of Mr. Lane, (Dem., Oregon,) a copy was ordered to be furnished to the Governor of Ohio.

The point of difference between the two Houses on the bill re-organizing the Patent Office, was with reference to the extension of Patents. The House had amended it, providing that no patent should be re-issued when the Commissioner was satisfied that both inventor and assignee had netted $100,000. The Senate amended this by confining that amount of profit to the inventor alone. The Committee of Conference consisted of Douglas, Cameron, and Fitch, of the Senate, and Cox, Frank, and Barr, of the House, who adopted, in place of what is above stated, the following:—All patents heretofore granted, shall remain in force 17 years from the date of issue, and all extension of such patents is hereby prohibited. The bill was thus passed. It stops all the corruption and intrigue as to present patents in Congress, and all patents granted after this passage cannot be renewed at the Patent Office.

On motion of Mr. Hale, a Committee of two was appointed to wait on the President and inform him that the Senate was ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make. Messrs. Hale and Douglas were appointed such Committee, and immediately proceeded to perform their duty.

On the Senate again coming to order, Mr. Hale reported that the Committee had performed their duty, and that the President had informed them that he would forthwith communicate a message to them in writing. Mr. Nicolay, the Private Secretary of the President, appeared with the message, when, on motion of Mr. Hale, the Senate went into Executive Session. The following gentlemen were confirmed as members of Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet:—Hon. Wm. H. Seward, Secretary of State; Hon. Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of Treasury; Hon. Simon Cameron, Secretary of War; Hon. Gideon Wells, Secretary of the Navy; Hon. Montgomery Blair, Post-Master General; Hon. Caleb B. Smith, Secretary of the Interior; Hon. Edward Bates, Attorney General. The votes were unanimous for all except Messrs. Bates and Blair, four or five votes being cast against each of these.

Mr. Bright presented a list of the Standing Committees which had been agreed upon by both parties. On his motion the list was unanimously adopted. The following are the Committees:

Foreign Relations—Sumner, Collamer, Doolittle, Harris, Douglas, Polk, Breckinridge.
Finance—Fessenden, Simmons, Wade, Howe, Hunter, Pearce, Bright.
Commerce—Chandler, King, Morril, Wilson, Clingman, Salisbury, Johnson.
Military—Wilson, King, Baker, Lane, Rice, Latham, Breckinridge.
Naval Affairs—Hale, Grimes, Foot, Cowan, Thompson, Nicholson, Kennedy.
Judiciary—Trumbull, Foster, Ten Eyck, Cowan, Bayard, Powell, Clingman.
Post Office—Collamer, Dixon, Wade, Trumbull, Rice, Bright, Latham.
Public Lands—Harlan, Bingham, Clark, Wilkinson, Johnson, Mitchell, Briggs.
Private Lands—Harris, Ten Eyck, Sumner, Polk, Bayard.
Indian Affairs—Doolittle, Baker, Cameron, Ten Eyck, Sebastian, Pearce, Nesmith.
Pensions—Foster, Bingham, Lane, Simmons, Salisbury, Powell, Mitchell.
Revolutionary Claims—King, Chandler, Wilkinson, Nicholson, Nesmith.
Claims—Clark, Simmons, Howe, Cowan, Bragg, Polk.
District of Columbia—Grimes, Anthony, Morril, Wade, Kennedy, Clingman, Powell.
Patents—Simmons, Sumner, Doolittle, Sebastian, Thompson.
Public Buildings—Foster, Dixon, Chandler, Bright, Kennedy.
Territories—Wade, Wilkinson, Cowan, Hale, Douglas, Sebastian, Bragg.
To Audit Expenses—Dixon, Clark, Johnson.
Printing—Anthony, Harlan, Nicholson.
Engrossed Bills—Lane, Morrill, Mitchell.
Enrolled Bills—Bingham, Baker, Salisbury.
Library—Pearce, Collamer, Fessenden.

On motion of Mr. Anthony, it was resolved, that a Committee of three be appointed to consider and report what additional arrangements and regulations are necessary to preserve order in the galleries of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Hale, 2,000 copies of the act amending the Patent Office Laws, were ordered to be printed; it being, he said, a very important law, and frequent applications being made for copies of it.

The Secession Movement.

MISSOURI—ST. LOUIS, March 5.—The convention met at 1 o'clock, and was opened with prayer.

Resolutions were read, moving that the protest of St. Louis against coercion by the Federal government be reduced to writing, and a copy sent to the President of the United States.

Many resolutions were received and referred, including one providing for a committee to confer with Border States as to the best manner for keeping the Western States in the Confederacy. Another declaring secession a dangerous political heresy, and that the Southern States had no excuse for seceding, and asking the Northern States to repeal the present liberty laws. Another that Missouri will furnish neither men nor money for the purpose of coercion, and that a national convention be called, making the Crittenden proposition its basis of action. Another requiring the Federal Government to deliver the Custom Houses and other public offices in the seceding States to the people.

A resolution was unanimously adopted, thanking Crittenden and Douglas for their efforts to preserve peace.

Among the resolutions was one by Gov. Stuart, that no overt act has been committed by the Federal Government to justify either nullification, secession or revolution. Also, one by Judge Orr, that we have the best Government in the world and intend to keep it.

Resolutions were adopted providing that a committee be appointed to wait on the Commissioner from Georgia, and inform him that Missouri dissented from the position taken by that State, and very kindly but emphatically declining to share the honors of secession with her.

VIRGINIA.—In the Convention, Mr. Goggin read a series of resolutions against coercive measures for the collection of the revenue, and that Virginia will repel such attempts; requesting the co-operation of the Border Slave States in effecting a plan for uniting, with the hope of restoring harmony to the Union, and of re-forming the United States upon the basis of the Constitution modified to protect the rights of persons and property in the Territories for all time; that in the event of a separation of Virginia from the Union, the Government property in Virginia ought to be resumed by her, as well for the defence of her citizens and property, in particular locations, as for purposes of general defence; that while Virginia remains in the Union she will assume no hostile attitude toward the Government, but be prepared to repel any assaults made upon her. The debate exhibited the effect of the Inaugural to some extent. The Union men, including Messrs. Cox and Goggin, urged that some action was necessary, as all Virginia's previous efforts had failed. They wait the opinion of the Border Slave States before determining, but contemplate no union with the North on unequal terms.

The majority report from the Committee on federal relations, recommends that the Border States hold a conference to determine further action and oppose coercion.

The minority report by Wise, requests Northern States to give an answer by October to certain demands, and in the meantime every step be taken to preserve the peace of the Government; retaining only sufficient force in forts to protect them; neither Government nor seceded States to commence hostilities.

Another minority report is for a secession ordinance.

Still another report is that the Government must immediately adopt measures to afford the people of the slaveholding States full constitutional rights, &c., and recommends that Commissioners be sent to Montgomery to confer with the Confederate States.

The Southern Confederacy.

IN the Congress of the Southern Confederacy, Mr. Clayton reported a bill providing that in the event of a conflict, or the refusal of the United States to recognize the independence of the Confederacy, no Court in the Confederated States shall have cognizance of civil cases of citizens of the United States. All pending cases shall be dismissed.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the President to instruct the Commissioner to the European powers to enter into a treaty for the extension of international copy right privileges.

Braxton Bragg was confirmed Brigadier General.

Wm. G. Hardee was confirmed Colonel of the first regiment of infantry.

On motion of Mr. Curry, the Judiciary Committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the importing of slaves into that Confederacy from the United States, except owned by persons emigrating for settlement and residence.

The flag for the Confederated States was unanimously determined upon. The design originated with the committee having the matter in charge, and was not taken from any of the models presented.

Mr. Mallory has been confirmed as Secretary of the Navy.

A private telegram from Montgomery says that the revenue laws have been adjusted by the regulation of the Treasury Department, so as to avoid any prejudice to the steamboat interest.

ARKANSAS.—Advices received from Arkansas state that the Convention of that State met on the 4th inst., and elected Union officers by six majority.

NORTH CAROLINA.—This State has voted against holding a Convention, by over 1,000 majority. The members elect, in case the Convention is called, are two to one for the Union.

Political Intelligence.

THE Republicans of Rhode Island met in Convention at Providence, on the 7th inst, and unanimously nominated for Governor, James C. Smith, formerly Mayor of Providence; Lieut. Governor, Simon B. Green, of Warwick; Attorney General, Sullivan Ballow, of Cranston; Secretary of State, John R. Bartlet, of Providence; Treasurer, Samuel A. Parker, of Newport; Congress, East District, Christopher Robinson; West District, Wm. D. Brayton. The Convention was full and the proceedings perfectly unanimous.

IN the Massachusetts Senate, on the 8th inst., the Personal Liberty bill, as reported by the Committee some three weeks since, was passed to be engrossed by a decided vote. This modifies and explains the present laws, and makes writs of *habeas corpus* returnable only to the Supreme Court, and providing that the evidence, &c., shall be governed by the Common Law.

THE Democracy of Michigan met in Detroit on the 7th inst., and nominated Chas. J. Walker, of Wayne Co., for Justice of the Supreme Court.

THE Constitutional Union and Democratic Convention of Rhode Island, have nominated Wm. Sprague for Governor, David G. Arnold for Lieut. Governor, and the rest of the present State officers.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—The bill to amend the act to facilitate the construction of Lake Ontario and Hudson River Railroad, was reported complete, and on motion of Mr. Spinola, was made the special order in committee of the whole on Tuesday.

BILLS PASSED.—To authorise commissioners loaning money of the United States, in certain contingencies, to release the same in certain cases; to extend the charter of the Peekskill and New Paltz Ferry Company.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Comstock moved that the bill incorporating the New York Eclectic Society be reported complete. Agreed to.

BILLS PASSED.—To amend the act of incorporation of companies for the navigation of Lakes and Rivers, by including in its operation the waters of Long Island Sound harbors; to authorize the transfer of insane convicts from Utica to Auburn; to amend the act authorizing the formation of corporations for manufacturing, mining, and mechanical purposes; to provide for reports from Supervisors of towns.

From the Pacific Side.

THE Pony Express arrived at Fort Kearney on the 9th inst., with California dates to the 23d ult.

The steamer St. Louis sailed for Panama on the 21st with 150 passengers and $994,000 in specie.

The ceremonies at the Union celebration on the 22d absorbed all the business of the day. It was universally observed by abstaining from business, as our Fourth of July celebration. In San Francisco it was estimated that more than 30,000 people attended the Union meeting at the square. It is generally conceded that this impromptu Union demonstration was the largest mass meeting ever held in San Francisco.

Resolutions were unanimously adopted declaring the unalterable attachment of California to the Union; that there exists no power under the Constitution for a State to secede; that California will cheerfully acquiesce in any honorable plan for the adjustment of existing difficulties, so as to secure the rights of all the States; that if one or more should effect a final separation from the Union, California should and will nevertheless cling to the Union. California entirely repudiates the project of a Pacific Republic as visionary, mischievous and impracticable; that the true attitude of the people of California at this time of trouble, is that of fraternal kindness towards the people of other States, and her honor and interest alike demand of her to do all in her power to bring about harmony and reunion among the people of the whole country.

The ship Moonlight sailed from San Francisco on the 10th ult. for Hong Kong. Among the cargo was $150,000 in treasure, and the remains of 400 deceased Chinamen.

Fort Point, at the entrance of San Francisco harbor, was occupied on the 22d for the first time by the Federal troops.

The Supreme Court in the case of Fremont against Flocri, decided that the holder of the United States patent and lands under the Mexican grant possesses all the precious metals contained in the lands.

Accounts from all parts of the State are received concerning planting operations, and the breadth of land sown with wheat is much greater than last year.

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FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A resolution was introduced into the House of Commons for assessing and levying income tax. Carried by a majority against the Government.

The Australasian sailed for New York on the 15th. Nothing has been heard about her.

The Daily News says that the Great Eastern will leave, the first week in March, for Norfolk, where she has been guaranteed a cargo, chiefly of cotton, for England, the freight of which will amount to about $75,000.

The Parliament proceedings were unimportant. The army estimates issued show a net decrease of £185,000, notwithstanding the number of land forces, 146,000, is slightly in excess of last year. The total sum required is £15,006,000.

A violent gale swept over the country on Wednesday, the 20th, and continued till Thursday. The Crystal Palace was severely damaged. Part of the north wing is in ruins.

FRANCE.—Reinforcements for the French army at Rome were continually leaving Marseilles.

Eugene Scribe, the celebrated dramatist, is dead.

Several persons in Paris connected with the transactions in the mines had been arrested.

Prince Napoleon's journey to Italy has been deferred, the Emperor having enjoined him to remain in Paris for the present, on the ground, as it is alleged, that the anti-clerical views of the Prince would give a rude impulse in Italy to the question of the Pope's temporal sovereignty.

The French occupation of Syria is to be prolonged two or three months beyond the time originally fixed.

ITALY.—The Italian Parliament was opened by Emanuel in person on the 18th.

The number of troops made prisoners at Gaeta was 11,000. Seven or eight hundred cannon, and 60,000 muskets were found there. Three Generals accompanied Francis to Rome.

Gen. Cialdini was ordered to summon the Commander of the fortress at Messina to surrender.

Victor Emanuel received at Milan the Prussian Envoy Extraordinary.

The conspiracy in favor of Murat was discovered at Naples.

The Papal Zouaves had invaded Sardinian territories. The volunteers repulsed them.

The Pontifical soldiers had fortified themselves at Nanzano.

The Journal of Rome denies any arrangement between the Holy See and Piedmont.

Gen. Cialdini and Admirable Persano had left Gaeta with troops for Messina. The fortress had been summoned to surrender under pain of an immediate attack; but Gen. Fergola is reported to have declared his intention to resist till the last extremity. The Sardinian General is reported to have proceeded towards the Neapolitan fortress of Civeletta on the Tranto, and would commence an immediate attack unless surrendered.

The *Official Opinione* denounces the rumored existence of negotiations between Sardinia and Rome.

The order of the day of Gen. Guyon censures the demonstration made by the national committee, and rejects the address of congratulation which the latter extended to the French; and also recommends the soldiers of his command to avoid in future all popular assemblies.

The suppressions of the conventions has given rise to several popular disturbances. The rioters attacked several conventions, but were dispersed by the National Guard.

AUSTRIA.—It is reported, via. Hamburgh, that orders had been sent to Trieste, to arm at once all sailing vessels of the Austrian Navy. They are to be stationed at Zara, Cattero, Tiume, Roguas, &c. Twelve gun-boats are to be sent to the Gulf of Guarrero, to watch the coast of Turkey.

The Royal rescript convoked the Diet, at Buda, for April 2d, to make arrangements for the coronation of the Emperor as King of Hungary, and to inaugurate Diploma, and to elect a Palatine of Hungary.

The Emperor of Austria has signed the new Constitution, which among other things, grants legislative powers to the Diet.

A telegram from Vienna announces that the state of affairs in Hungary is becoming very serious. Several districts, among them Raab, Somgay, Potwarden and Warden will be declared in a state of seige.

SPAIN.—Had agreed with Morocco that the payment of the indemnity—200,000,000 reals—shall be completed immediately. The customs and duties at Tangiere and Megadore, are to be hypothecated to Spain for indemnity.

RUSSIA.—A proclamation for the emancipation of serfs would be issued in Russia on the 3d.

Direct transaction between the Banks of St. Petersburgh and France, changing 30,000,000f. in gold for the same amount in silver had occurred.

CHINA.—Fresh disturbances have commenced against Christians in Cochin China.

INDIA.—Famine was very severe in the north-west provinces of India.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—*Breadstuffs.*—Richardson, Spence & Co report flour very dull, and offered at a decline of 6d without sales. Wheat dull; all qualities considerably declined, and prices irregular. Red Chicago 11s1d@13s3d; Red Southern 12s6d@13s; White dull, 13s@15s; Common quiet, and declined 6d; Mixed 30s9d. Wakefield, Nash & Co. say wheat has declined 1s@2d.

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DR. GEORGE SEYMOUR, of Litchfield, Ct., died on the 29th ult., from the effects of the National Hotel disease at Washington, contracted four years since.

DENMARK is arming to the teeth, and the legislative bodies and the people are determined to sustain the King against any attempt that may be made against the integrity of his dominions by the Prussians.

ROCKING-CHAIRS are an American invention, and a correspondent of the Historical Magazine asks when they were introduced into use. Twenty-five years ago they were sent to Europe as presents, and in France were then regarded as great novelties.

The News Condenser.

— The Chicago harbor is free from ice.

— Recruiting has become brisker in New York.

— Penny bathing houses are proposed in Philadelphia.

— Russia has now a splendid fleet in the Mediterranean.

— The small pox is said to be prevalent in Gallatin, Tenn.

— The Hudson river is now open from New York to Albany.

— England is the tin plate manufacturer for the whole world.

— Trade between South Carolina and Boston has been resumed.

— Diptheria is prevailing to an alarming extent in Dinwiddie Co., Va.

— The total free population of all the seceded States foots up to 2,287,754.

— Over 8,500 volumes were given to Harvard College library last year.

— They are opening up oil wells in Canada, in the low lands near Port Sarnia.

— Sounding boards over church pulpits are again coming into vogue in New York.

— A large order for Webster's Dictionaries has been received from Shanghae, in China.

— There were 57 divorces decreed in San Francisco, in 1860, of 155 petitioned for.

— Silver is looking up out of its dark shades, and promises again to get ahead of gold.

— Hon. Joseph Ridgway, a former Congressman from Ohio, died at Columbus recently.

— Several destructive fires have occurred in the wooded lands on Long Island lately.

— There is a house in Paris which sells annually half a million pairs of wooden shoes.

— Whole families had to sleep in the streets in Washington the night before the inauguration.

— The resignation of Mr. Preston, as Minister to Spain, has been filed in the State Department.

— There are no less than six different bands of American Ethiopian minstrels now in England.

— There are 22 savings banks in Rhode Island, holding $9,163,760, belonging to 35,405 depositors.

— Two hundred and forty-two steamers, of 103,662 tons, were built in the United Kingdom in 1860.

— A diner at a London restaurant recently died in a spasm, from eating mustard in excess upon his food.

— A panorama is exhibited in Liverpool, showing the progress of the Prince of Wales in this country.

— Col. Hamilton, of Texas, it is stated, will refuse to resign his seat in Congress, even if his State secedes.

— The first canal boat of this season arrived at Chicago, on the 9th inst., laden with 4,000 bushels of corn.

— Samuel H. Black was arrested on Friday week, in New York, on a charge of counterfeiting copper cents.

— The New York Syrian Relief Committee have closed their formal labors. They have received $29,923.82.

— The Philadelphia American expresses the opinion that Pennsylvania is fifty millions richer for the new tariff.

— A new kind of steam engine, called "Pendulous," working with great economy, has been invented in England.

— A steam train of barges, connected by joints, has been built at Glasgow, to navigate the winding rivers of India.

— A dead child was almost entirely devoured by rats, in a hovel in the Five Points, in New York, a few days since.

— The cotton mills of Bombay now comprise 311,842 spindles and 4,025 looms—a large increase upon former years.

— The number of persons killed and wounded in Texas by the Indians, during the past three months, is estimated at 470.

— A nursery has been established in Boston, where the poor women can leave their children when they go out to work.

— On the 1st of January there were over 8,000 Americans in Paris, many of whom are said to be permanent residents there.

— Joseph Pierson, residing in Bucks Co., Pa., is said to have realized $500,000 in six months, from coal oil in that State.

— In the Hermitage district, in Tennessee, the disunion ticket had four votes, and the Union ticket had seventy-one votes.

— The Duke of Newcastle has sent to Mayor Woolworth, of Chicago, as a present, two of his full-blooded Southdown sheep.

— Greek coins have been found in England, within a short period—supposed to have been brought there by the Romans.

— Major Bowman, of the Corps of Engineers, has been appointed Superintendent of the West Point Military Academy.

— Application has been made by a firm in New York for a patent for paper neckties, printed in imitation of silk and gingham.

— A woman recently obtained a divorce in Defiance Co., Ohio, and married a second husband in the afternoon of the same day.

— It is stated, on reliable authority, that an order has been received in New York, from England, for 32,000 barrels of refined oil.

— The California Legislature have expunged the resolutions of censure formerly passed against the late Senator Broderick.

— Two comets are now looked for by astronomers—the De Vico comet, which appeared in 1855, and the celebrated comet of Charles V.

— On Friday week fifty two swans were placed in the Central Park pond, New York, which was filled up to the usual summer level.

— The Dunkirk Journal says that there will be eleven first-class steamers running out of that port during the coming season.

— The Algiers journals record the death of a sheik named Ben Molcha, aged 110, and of an Arab named Aissa Mohammed, aged 113.

— Joseph Foote, a Revolutionary soldier, aged 100 years and 5 months, died at Coventry, Chenango Co., N. Y., on the 21st ultimo.

— The French Emperor has caused Longwood and the tomb of Napoleon, at St. Helena, to be restored to their former condition.

— A San Francisco paper reports the arrival at that city of a Japanese merchant, who came to purchase goods to be sold in his own country.

— Georgia papers say that the damage done to the State Railroad by the late freshet will require an expenditure of $100,000 for repairs.

— The supply of copper in the mining regions, in England, steadily decreases—the deficiency in a few years amounting to nearly 2,000 tons.

— At a town meeting in South Scituate, Mass., the inhabitants voted not to pay their taxes until next year, in consequence of the hard times.

— A fearful storm occurred on the coast of England and Ireland, the 8th and 9th ult., destroying many lives and a great amount of shipping.

— The Auditor of Louisiana says that within 30 years there have been 91 defalcations by State Tax collectors, the amount swindled exceeding $550,000.

— There has been on exhibition at Watertown, N. Y., a perfectly white deer, which was taken in the great woods in the Northern part of the State.

— The Albany papers estimate the damage occasioned by the freshet at that city, at $100,000. The Troy papers set down their loss at about $10,000.

— John Johnson, an old citizen of Ohio, and a companion of the celebrated Daniel Boone, was found dead in bed, in Washington City, Monday week.

— The officers and crew of the British war steamer Triton have recently been paid £26,000, as prize money, earned in the capture of slavers on the African coast.

The Publisher to the Public.

Back Numbers of this Volume will be sent to New Subscribers, until otherwise announced; but all wishing them should *subscribe soon.*

☞ ANY person so disposed can act as local agent for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and those who volunteer in the good cause will receive gratuities, and their kindness be appreciated. See "Good Pay for Doing Good" in this week's RURAL—below

☞ VOLUNTARY AGENTS FOR THE RURAL.—Any and every Subscriber or reader is requested to act in behalf of the RURAL, by forming clubs or otherwise *Now is the time* for its friends to manifest their interest in the paper and the cause it advocates, either by obtaining new subscribers, or inducing others to act in its behalf. If any lose or wear out numbers in *showing the paper*,—that's the best way to get subscribers,—we will duplicate them in order to make their files complete for binding

SINGLE ADDITIONS TO CLUBS.—A Western Agent, in remitting for one addition to his club says:—"If sending single subscriptions don't suit, let me know" Well, Sir, it *does suit*, exactly You or any other friend after forming a club for this volume, are at liberty, and requested, to make additions any time within the year at club rate—by ones, twos, threes, or any number So, being right, go-ahead, good friends, the more additions the merrier—and you will observe by a notice elsewhere that we offer *Extra Premiums* for additions, or new clubs, between this date and April 1st.

☞ ADDITIONS TO CLUBS are now in order, and whether in ones, twos, fives, tens or twenties will receive attention and be gratefully acknowledged. It is small clubs, and subsequent additions to them, which must make up the great bulk of our subscription—and hence we fully appreciate the efforts of those who form the rivulets upon which we depend to swell our general circulation. Agent-Friends will please bear this in mind, and send on the names of all who will join their clubs. The hard times and panic have no doubt caused many to delay renewing or subscribing,—but they, and their families, intend to have the RURAL, and we hope our friends will afford them opportunity. Many agents are furnishing the RURAL, and taking pay in produce, &c.,—while not a few generously advance the money. In all such instances, we endeavor to be as liberal to agents as they are to subscribers.

GOOD PAY FOR DOING GOOD!

AGENTS, FRIENDS, SUBSCRIBERS, and all other persons who wish to DO GOOD, and have no objection to receiving GOOD PAY therefor, are invited to give the following Premium List a careful examination, and decide whether the inducements are not sufficient to secure prompt and energetic ACTION. It will be seen that the premiums are very liberal—*the best yet offered*—and so arranged that every person who remits for Two or more Subscribers, will secure a *Valuable Prize!* Read the list.

GRAND SPECIFIC PRIZES.

PREMIUMS FOR EACH AND ALL—NO BLANKS!

IN order to give every Club Agent or Active Friend of the *Rural* a Benefit, we have concluded to offer the following Liberal Specific Premiums to *every person* who forms a Club for the New Volume!

WE WILL GIVE

1. Webster's Unabridged Pictorial Dictionary (cash price $6 50) and an extra copy of the *Rural* to *every person* remitting $80 for Forty Yearly Subscribers to the *Rural New-Yorker*, (at least twenty of which must be *new* Subscribers, or persons who have not taken the paper regularly for 1860,) previous to the 1st of April, 1861. The same (Dictionary and free copy,) to every person remitting $37,50 for Thirty *New* Subscribers, as above.

2. Lossing's Illustrated History of the United States (Imperial 8vo, with 300 Illustrations,—price, $3,50,) as 6 so extra copy of the *Rural* free, to every person remitting $37,50, as above, for *thirty* copies, at least *twenty* of which must be for *new* subscribers.

3. Macaulay's History of England, (Harper's Edition, in 4 volumes, 12mo, bound in leather—cash price, $3,) and an extra paper free, to every person remitting $30, as above, for *Twenty-Four* copies, at least *twenty* of which must be for new subscribers.

4. Macaulay's England, (same edition as above, in cloth binding—price, $2,00,) and an extra paper free, to every person remitting $25 for *twenty new* subscribers, as above. Macaulay's England (as above,) to every person remitting $25 for Twenty subscribers, old or new.

5. Macaulay's England, (in cloth, as above,) to every person remitting $21 for *Fifteen* copies, at least *ten* of which must be for new subscribers.

6. Webster's Counting House and Family Dictionary (Mason and Brothers' Edition, bound in leather, cash price, $1,50) post-paid, and a free copy of the *Rural*, to every person remitting $18 for Twelve copies, at least *eight* being for new subscribers

7. Webster's C. H. & Family Dictionary, post-paid, and a free copy of *Rural*, to every person remitting $15 for Ten new subscribers, or

8. Everybody's Lawyer (bound in law style, price $1,25,) *post-paid*, (or, any $1,25 or $1 work, mentioned herein, post-paid, and a free copy of *Rural* to every person remitting $16 for Ten subscribers, whether old or new

9. Webster's C. H. & F. Dictionary, post paid, and a free copy of *Rural*, to every person remitting $10 for six *new* subscribers

10. The Horse and his Diseases (Illustrated, bound in leather, price $1,25,) *post-paid*, and a free copy of *Rural*, to every one remitting $10 for Six subscribers, whether old or new

11. Lossing's Pictorial United States (12mo, with 200 Illustrations, price $1,) *post-paid*, to every person remitting $8 for Five subscribers, three being new—or $5 for Three subscribers, two being new.

12. Cole's Fruit Book (price 50 cents,) *post paid*—or, if preferred, THE SKILLFUL HOUSEWIFE, (same price,) post-paid—to every person remitting $4 for two subscribers, one being new

[Persons entitled to any of the above books, and preferring other works of equal value, mentioned herein, can be accommodated on stating their wishes. For instance, any one entitled to "Everybody's Lawyer," can have "The Horse and His Diseases" or "Lossing's Pictorial," and *vice versa*. Any one entitled to Macaulay's History can have instead, and post-paid, either five of the dollar or ten shilling books; and any one entitled to Lossing's Illustrated History, can have instead, and post-paid, *two* copies of the Counting House and Family Dictionary, &c. The Pictorial Dictionary, Lossing's Illustrated History, and Macaulay's History are too heavy to send by mail—but all the other works will be sent *post-paid* to any part of the United States within 3,000 miles]

☞ Persons who took the RURAL last quarter, on trial, and subscribe for this year, may be counted as *new* subscribers in competing for Premiums.

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STILL BETTER!

Extra Gifts for Clubs before April!

HAVING resolved to "keep the ball moving" until April—in order to attain a LARGELY INCREASED CIRCULATION—we have concluded to give such liberal rewards for efforts as will pay any and every one for time and trouble devoted to the formation of clubs. We therefore make the following offers IN ADDITION *to the premiums above enumerated:*

1. TO EVERY PERSON procuring and remitting for Forty Yearly Subscribers, (half of the number being *new* subscribers,) to the RURAL NEW-YORKER, between the 9th of February and 1st of April, WE WILL GIVE, (*in addition to the Dictionary and free copy above offered*,) LOSSING'S ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES,—a large and beautiful Octavo Volume of 672 pages, splendidly illustrated, and printed in the best style on extra paper—cash price, $3,50. The same work to every person remitting, according to our terms, for Thirty *New* Subscribers within the same period. [If preferred to Lossing's History, we will give MACAULAY'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND, in four volumes, bound in leather, (price, $3,) or a bound volume of the RURAL NEW-YORKER for 1858, '59, or '60, as preferred, (price, $3.)

2. TO EVERY PERSON remitting as above, for Twenty *New* Subscribers, we will give as an extra premium, a copy of WEBSTER'S C. H. & FAMILY DICTIONARY, post-paid—the most complete and valuable work of its price published—or any $1,25 book, post-paid, above mentioned.

3. TO EVERY PERSON remitting for Fifteen subscribers, as above, at least ten being *new*, or for Twelve of which eight are new, or for Ten *new* subscribers, (see No. 4, 6, and 7 above,) we will give, or send post-paid, a copy of EVERYBODY'S LAWYER, or any other $1,25 or $1 book, above named.

4. TO EVERY PERSON remitting for Ten Subscribers, whether old or new, or for Six *new* subscribers, as above, we will give, or send post paid, a copy of LOSSING'S PICTORIAL UNITED STATES,—12mo, 200 engravings, price, $1

☞ There, Friends and Strangers, is just what we offer and propose to perform! You can afford to make a little EXTRA effort, we reckon, to secure such LIBERAL and VALUABLE prizes. In fact, we shouldn't be surprised if you should trust some of your neighbors and acquaintances a few weeks, (such as you know will pay,) and advance the money, in order to make a "sure thing" You can decide.

TERMS OF THE RURAL—IN ADVANCE.

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR. *Three Copies, one year, $5, Six Copies, and one free to Club Agent, $10; Ten, and one free, $15; Fifteen, and one free, $21; Twenty, and one free, $25, and any greater number at the same rate—only $1,25 per copy Club papers sent to different post-offices, if desired. As we pay American postage on copies mailed to foreign countries, $1,37 is the lowest Club rate for Canada, and $2,25 to Europe.*

Please write all addresses plainly and carefully, in order that they may be accurately entered upon our books and correctly PRINTED by our Mailing Machine All subscriptions should be well inclosed, and carefully addressed and mailed to

D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y.

☞ NO TRAVELING AGENTS are employed by us, as we wish to give the whole field to local agents and those who form clubs. And beside, we wish it distinctly understood that all persons traveling through the country, professing to hold certificates from us, ARE IMPOSTORS

Special Notices.

HOARSENESS, &c.

Brown's Bronchial Troches—These cough and voice lozenges, which we advertised a few week ago, are superior for relieving hoarseness to anything that we are acquainted with. We have tried them during the past winter, and make this statement gratuitously for the benefit of our brethren in the ministry.—*Central Christian Herald, Cincinnati.*

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE,
Rochester, March 12, 1861.

OUR market is in about the condition noted last week Two changes are observable, a decline in the prices of Rye and Calf Skins, as will be seen by reference to the table. The roads are in a very bad state, and but few farmers are to be seen in the streets. Business is dull and the transactions are limited.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN		Eggs, dozen	12@13c
Flour, winter wheat	$5,25@6,75	Honey, box	12@14
Flour, spring do	5,00@5,00	Candles, box	12@13
Flour, buckwheat	0,00@2,00	Candles, extra	00@14
Meal, Indian	@1,12½	FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Wheat, Genesee	1,10@1,30	Apples, bushel	25@31c
Best white Canada	0,00@1,35	Apples, dried, ⅌ lb	2½@3
Corn, old	00@50c	Peaches, dried ⅌ lb	9@10
Corn, new	00@45	Cherries, dried	00@10
Rye, 60 lbs ⅌ bush	60@63	Plums, dried	00@10
Oats, by weight	25@26	Potatoes	40@50
Barley	50@55	HIDES AND SKINS.	
Buckwheat	38@40	Slaughter	4@4½
Beans	75c@$1,00	Calf	7@7
MEATS.		Sheep Pelts	50@163c
Pork, Mess	$16,50@00,00	Lamb Pelts	50@88
Pork, clear	18,00@19,00	SEEDS.	
Pork, cwt	6,00@6,25	Clover, bushel	$4,00@4,50
Beef, cwt	4,00@6,00	Timothy	2,25@2,75
Spring lambs, each	1,50@2,00	SUNDRIES.	
Mutton, carcass	4@5c	Wood, hard	$3,00@5,00
Hams, smoked	9@10	Wood, soft	3,00@3,00
Shoulders	6@7	Coal, Lehigh	7,00@7,00
Chickens	9@10	Coal, Scranton	5,75@6,00
Turkeys	10@11	Coal, Pittston	5,75@6,00
Geese	40@50	Coal, Shamokin	5,75@6,00
Ducks ⅌ pair	38@44	Coal, Char	10@12½
DAIRY, &c.		Salt, bbl	1,75@1,78
Butter, roll	13@15	Hay, ton	8,00@12,50
Butter, firkin	13@14	Straw, ton	0,00@0,00
Cheese	9@10	Wool, ⅌ lb	30@50c
Lard, tried	10@10	Whitefish, half bbl	4,25@4,50
Tallow, rough	5@6	Codfish, ⅌ quintal	4,50@5,00
Tallow, tried	8@8½	Trout, half bbl	4,00@4,25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 11.—FLOUR—Market dull, heavy and a trifle lower for common and medium grades, with only a very limited demand for export and home consumption. Sales at $5 00@5,15 for super State, $5,12@5,25 for extra do, $5,00@5,10 for super Western, $5,15@5,35 for common to medium extra do, $5,60@5,85 for inferior to good shipping brands extra round hoop Ohio, $5,90@7,00 for trade brands do—closing dull and heavy, with sales of extra State rumored at $5,10 Canadian dull and drooping, sales at $5,25@6,75 for common to choice extra.

GRAIN—Wheat less active and a trifle lower, there is not so much inquiry for France, sales Chicago spring at $1,16@1,17 in store and delivered, North-western club at $1,18 delivered, Milwaukee club at $1,21@1 22 delivered, winter red Western at $1,30 delivered, Canada club at $1 21, white Western at $1,45@1,60.—Rye dull and scarcely so firm, sales Jersey at 66c. Barley without important change, sales State at 68@73c, as to quality.—Corn, old is dull and new in fair request at slightly better prices, sales at 66c for prime old mixed Western, in store, 65@66c for new do at R.R. depot and delivered, 62@65c for new Southern yellow, 66@67c for new white Southern. Oats plenty and dull at 32@34c for Western, Canadian 33½@34½c for State

PROVISIONS—Pork dull and a shade lower for mess and dull and unchanged for prime, sales at $17 12 for mess, $16,75 for thin do, $12,50 for prime. Hogs dull and slightly lower, sales at 6¾@7c for open fed dressed, live do quiet at 5½@5¾c. Lard, demand moderate at rather easier prices, sales at 9¾@10¼c. Butter is selling slowly at 10@14c for Ohio and 14@19c for State.—Cheese steady at 8@10½c for inferior to prime

ALBANY, March 11.—FLOUR AND MEAL—The better description remain steady, but the low grades have depreciated. We quote

Common to good State	$4,90@5,10
Fancy and extra State	5,12@5,25
Common to good Western	5,40@6,00
Extra Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, &c.	5,75@7,00
Extra Ohio	6,00@7,00
Common Canadian	5,25@5,75
Extra Canadian	6,00@7,00
Fancy Genesee	6,00@6,00
Extra Genesee and city brands	6,00@7 25
Extra Kentucky	6,50@7,00

GRAIN—No sales of Wheat reported. Corn steady and in moderate request, sales new round yellow at 55@56c, at the Central Depot. In Rye and Oats there is nothing doing. Barley in fair request and market firm, sales four-rowed State, at the Depot, at 70c.

SEED—Clover quiet. Timothy is buoyant and the demand good, sales at $3,12½@3,25.

BUFFALO, March 11.—FLOUR—The market for flour is quiet at $4,50 for extra State, $4,75@5 00 for extra Wisconsin and Canada, $5,12½@5,37½ for extra Ohio, Indiana and Michigan, $5,50@6,00 for double extras.

GRAIN—Wheat in moderate demand, with sales of Canada club at 95c, and white winter do. at $1.20. Corn dull at 35c.—Oats nominal at 24c. Barley nominal at 50c.

SEEDS—Seeds firmer

HOGS—Dressed hogs quiet at 5½@6c.—*Com. Adv.*

TORONTO, March 9.—FLOUR—Flour is quiet but firm, and we have heard of few sales during the week A round lot of superfine extra was reported as having sold early in the week at $5,75 on cars, but choice brands of the same grade might bring 10c more Extra may be nominally quoted at $5,40@5,60. Superfine is generally held firm at $4,76, and few sales have been effected below that figure, though free offers of $4,65 ex care were freely made There is no inquiry for lower grades. Bag flour for bakers use is slow sale at $4,75@5 We quote

Superfine extra	$5,15@5,30
Extra	5,45@5,65
Fancy	5,00@5,25
No. 1	4,70@4,75
No. 2	4,30@4 50

GRAIN—The deliveries of fall wheat since our last have not exceeded 5,200 bushels. $1,16 was the ruling figure for the present sample Common to medium brought $1 13@1,16 with an active demand. The quantity of spring wheat delivered from teams would not amount to over 4 500 bushels, and was sold at 87@95c Choice loads of Golden Drop found buyers at 97@98c, but little was offered, demand active. Barley in small supply 50@55c were the extreme figures paid Oats in moderate supply, the the price fluctuates with the quantity offered. The prices ranged from 25@27c. Peas have an active demand, but the receipts are limited. Not over 2 300 bushels have been offered during the week We quote 45@50c as the ruling prices. Corn, some 3,000 bushels of this grain changed hands for distilling purposes at 50c. on the track.

SEEDS—Timothy seed has an active wholesale demand, at prices ranging from $2 80@3,00 ⅌ bushel Clover seed is equally active, at $4,75 ⅌ bushel.—*Globe.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 6.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality	$9,00@9,50
Ordinary quality	8,00@8,50
Common quality	7,00@8,00
Inferior quality	6,00@6,75
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality	$55,00@60,00
Ordinary quality	40 00@50,00
Common quality	30,00@35,00
Inferior quality	25,00@30,00
VEAL CALVES	
First quality, ⅌ lb	6½@7½c
Ordinary quality	5½@6 c
Common quality	4 @5 c
Inferior quality	3½@4 c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality	$5,50@7,00
Ordinary quality	4,00@5,00
Common quality	3,00@3,75
Inferior quality	2,75@3,00
SWINE.	
First quality	5½@5¾c
Other qualities	4¾@5 c

ALBANY, March 11—BEEVES—The market is more active this week The "run" is pretty light, nearly 100 short of last week, while the demand is somewhat better Prices are perhaps a shade better, and the sales are quick, while there is no improvement in the average quality

The Propellors will commence running to-day, and for the season will constitute formidable rivals of the Hudson River and Harlem Railroads for the live stock carrying trade

RECEIPTS—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car

	This week.	Last week.	Cor. week last year.
Cattle	2,230	2,304	3,130
Sheep	2,300	1,522	2,936
Hogs			360

PRICES—Sales are quick at the following quotations, most of the droves having changed hands

	This week.	Last week.
Premium	5 @5½c	—@—
Extra	4½@4¾c	4½@4¾c
First quality	3½@4¼c	3¾@4 c
Second quality	3½@3¾c	3½@3¾c
Third quality	2½@3 c	2½@3 c

SHEEP—The city demand is extremely light, the heaviest dealers in mutton saying they cannot afford to pay the prices asked There is some inquiry, however, for New York and Brighton, and in view of the light receipts, the market is buoyant at a shade advance in prices. We notice sales 250 coarse wooled at $4,87½ 100 lbs, average 100 lbs, 188 prime do at 5¼c ⅌ lb, average 105 lbs. 100 at 5¼c, average 100 lbs.

DRESSED HOGS—Very little doing Occasional sales are made at $6,25@6,60—outside for strictly prime lots.—*Atlas & Argus*

BRIGHTON, March 7.—At market—900 Beef Cattle, 75 Stores, 2,001 Sheep and Lambs, and 750 Swine

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $7 25@0,00, 1st quality, $6,50@7,00, 2d do, $6,00@0,00, 3d do, $0,00@5,50.

WORKING OXEN—$75@90.

MILCH COWS—$45@47; common, $19@20

VEAL CALVES—$3,00@8,00

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0, two-years old, $14@16, three years old, $17@19.

HIDES—4½@5c ⅌ lb, (none but slaughtered at market.)

CALF SKINS—10@11c ⅌ lb.

TALLOW—6½@7c ⅌ lb.

PELTS—$1,00@1,25 each

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1 50@1,75, extra, $5,00@5,50

SWINE—Store, wholesale, 4½@7c, retail, 5@6c. Fat Hogs, undressed, still fed, 0c

CAMBRIDGE, March 6.—At market 544 cattle, about 450 beeves and 104 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows, and one, two and three years old.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $6,75@7,00; first quality, $6 00@6,62; second quality, $5,00@0,00, third quality, $3,50, ordinary quality, $2,75.

WORKING OXEN—$97@130

COWS AND CALVES—$30, $60, $40@67

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0; two years old, $15@15; three years old, $17@19

SHEEP AND LAMBS—1,700 at market. Prices—in lots $1,25@1,50, extra and selections, $2,25@6,00 each.

PELTS—$1@1 25 each.

TALLOW—6½@7c ⅌ lb.

HIDES—4½@5c ⅌ lb. CALF SKINS—10@11c ⅌ lb.

VEAL CALVES—None.

TORONTO, March 9.—BEEF—The supply of live stock has been limited. $4,50@6 ⅌ 100 lbs. has been the extreme prices paid—Large markets are expected to-morrow and Saturday, as the occurrence of some country fairs have given buyers an opportunity of accumulating stock. Deliveries from farmers' wagons have been limited, and prices have been steady, at $4@6 per 100 pounds

SHEEP—Scarce and in demand. $4,00@6 each, would be freely paid.

HIDES—Beef hides $4,50@5,00 ⅌ 100 lbs. Sheep-skins 80c@$1 Calf skins 10½c ⅌ lb.—*Globe*

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 7.—We can notice no important change in the market since the date of our last report. The inquiry from all quarters is still very limited, though prices, as a general thing, are without quotable change Domestic fleeces have sold to a fair extent, the transactions embrace about 45,000 lbs, mainly medium, at 40@46c. Pulled wools have been quiet, and the sales are unimportant. A few small lots California have been selling, mostly low grades, at our quotations. Foreign wools continue quiet, the only sale we hear of is 300 bales Mestizo, reported on private terms, but said to be at improving prices.

American Saxony Fleece, ⅌ lb	48@48
American full-blood Merino	41@44
American half-blood and three-fourths Merino	37@40
American Native and one-fourth Merino	33@35
Extra Pulled	35@37
Superfine, Pulled	31@33
No. 1, Pulled	23@25
Lamb's, Pulled	28@30
California, extra	00@01
California, fine, unwashed	22@26
California, common do	12@21
Peruvian, washed	26@30
Valparaiso, unwashed	—@—
South American Mes., unwashed	15@21
South American Merino, unwashed	22@23
South American, common washed	15@15
South American Entre Rios, do	13@15
South American, unwashed	9@10
South American Cordova, washed	19@22
Cape Good Hope unwashed	25@28
East India, washed	16@30
African, unwashed	9@18
African, washed	16@28
Smyrna, unwashed	10@18
Smyrna, washed	23@26
Mexican, unwashed	11@14

BOSTON, March 7.—The market has been firmer for Fleece and Pulled Wool with sales of 150,000 lbs at various prices, according to quality also sales of 1 000 bales Mediterranean, Cape of Good Hope and South America.

Saxony and Merino, fine	48@55	Western mixed	20@30
Full blood	44@47	Smyrna, washed	15@26
¾ and ½ blood	36@43	Do unwashed	9@17
Common	30@33	Syrian	10@23
Pulled, extra	40@48	Cape	19@30
Do Superfine	33@40	Crimea	9@17
Do No. 1	25@33	Buenos Ayres	9@45
Do No. 2	16@25	Peruvian, washed	20@30

Married.

AT the residence of the bride's father, "Lake Side," Warren, Conn., Feb. 14, by Rev MR LORDELL, BENJAMIN CARTER and AMELIA T., eldest daughter of WM. HORSEY, Esq.

IN Geneva, N. Y., on Friday morning, Feb. 25d, by the Rev PITCH REED, D. D., at the residence of the bride's father, WM. C. FRENCH, of Chemung Co., and Miss SARAH S PRICE, eldest daughter of LEWIS PRICE, Esq.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line

☞ THE RURAL NEW-YORKER commenced its Twelfth Year and Volume with an edition of *over* SEVENTY THOUSAND! Though the columns are wider than formerly (giving more words per line,) and the circulation much larger, we do not purpose to increase the Advertising Rates at present. The RURAL is undoubtedly the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its Class in America—for, in addition to its immense circulation among the most enterprising and successful Farmers and Horticulturists, it is taken and read by thousands of Merchants, Mechanics, Manufacturers and Professional Men.

*** In consequence of its large and increasing circulation, we are obliged to put the last form of the RURAL to press earlier than formerly, and advertisements should reach us on *Monday* to secure insertion the same week.

GRAPE VINES.—Delaware, Diana, Rebecca, Concord, Hartford Prolific, Union Village, Northern Muscadine, Creveling, Catawba, Isabella, Clinton, &c., at the very lowest rates.
Toledo, Ohio, March 7, 1861 FAHNESTOCK & BAKER. 583-5t

THE VOYAGE TO EUROPE, 25 CENTS. A STEREOSCOPE and 12 Stereoscopic Views, representing scenes in 12 different Countries in Europe Price only 25 cents, per mail free, 28 cts; or highly colored, 50 cents, per mail, 62 cents.
D. APPLETON & CO., PUBLISHERS,
443 & 445 Broadway, New York

ORLEANS COUNTY MARKET FAIR.—The Orleans County Agricultural Society will hold a Market Fair for Exhibition, sale or exchange of Stock, Seeds, Agricultural and Manufactured Articles, &c., on the Fair Grounds, at Albion, Saturday, April 6th, 1861. Grounds free for Exhibitors and visitors. D. N. HATCH, Prest.
C. A. HARRINGTON, Sec'y 583-3t

CRANBERRY PLANTS!—2 000,000 *Cultivated Cranberry Plants*, of the celebrated Cape Cod and Bell varieties, now being taken up for planting, for sale at *low prices*. THE CRANBERRY CULTURIST, a treatise on the Culture of the Cranberry, both marsh and upland Sent, pre-paid, on receipt of 12 cents in postage stamps. Apply to
WM H STARR, East New London Nurseries,
583-7teow New London, Conn

FARM FOR SALE—Containing 160 acres,—one of the best wheat and stock farms in Monroe Co. (1000 barrels of Apples raised last year) lying 8 miles west of this city, in the town of Ogden, ½ of a mile north of the Buffalo road, (farm of the late A N Shepard, deceased) Terms easy For particulars apply on the premises, or to WM SMITH, Livonia, Livingston County, N. Y.
March 16, 1861 583-2teow

NATIVE EVERGREENS.—Nurserymen and others can be supplied with Native Evergreens, for early or late Spring planting, at the following prices—Balsam Fir and Spruce, $5 to $8, Hemlock and Cedar $1 to $5, per thousand, delivered at their nearest R.R. Station The above prices will vary according to the distance to be shipped, and quantity ordered. Please address W SIBLEY,
Care of Dr. C Beadle, St. Catharines Nursery, C. W.

RELIABLE AGENTS WANTED—To sell Music and other general publications, in every city, town and village, at which a good living may be made There is nothing bogus about this valuable agency, as may be seen from a circular which will be sent free to all applicants. Those now engaged who can give satisfactory references. Only one agent (male or female,) in a district will be employed. Address "Box 4,614, Post Office, New York City"

COPPER LIGHTNING CONDUCTORS.—BRITTAN'S Continuous Copper Strip Lightning Conductors, patented Nov 6, 1860, furnished at wholesale and retail.
Particular attention given to the protection of buildings.—Single conductors sent to any part of the country with instructions for their proper application Circulars sent when requested
Agents wanted everywhere in the United States A liberal commission allowed to those obtaining jobs.
583 N BRITTAN, 83 Main Street, Rochester, N Y

NEW GRAPES—NEW STRAWBERRIES—(At the American Garden of Experiments)—SMALL, healthy, *well rooted* vines of my new Grape, North America, (extremely hardy and productive, better than Isabella, and a full month earlier,) will be sent by mail, securely packed and pre-paid, for $2 each, $15 per dozen
Randolph Pine Strawberry, earliest and "very best" A fruit for every amateur $2 per dozen O T HOBBS,
Randolph, Crawford Co., Pa.

DOWNER'S PROLIFIC SEEDLING STRAWBERRY.—This splendid new variety, said to surpass even the Wilson in productiveness, and in quality equal to the best, we now place within the reach of every body who may desire them, viz., on the receipt of One Dollar we will deliver by mail into the hand of the purchaser, 65 LIVE PLANTS, any distance under 3,000 miles. Also, Wilson's and Peabody's Seedlings at 50 cents per dozen, by mail, or $3 per thousand, delivered to R. R. Co., at Macedon depot. I. W. BRIGGS & SON,
583-3t Macedon, Wayne Co., N. Y

AMALGAM BELLS.—At prices within the reach of every church, school house, factory, cemetery or farm in the land Their use all over the United States for the past two years has proven them to combine more valuable qualities than any other, among which tone, strength, durability, vibrations and sonorous qualities are unequalled by any other manufacturer Sizes 50 to 5,000 lbs., costing less than half other metal, or 12½ cents per lb., at which price we warrant them 12 months Send for circular for sizes, guarantees, &c. M. C CHADWICK & CO.,
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ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS.—We have a large assortment of rare fine Shade and Ornamental Trees for Lawns, &c., comprising among them

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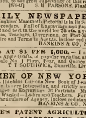
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BEHIND THE MASK.

It was an old, distorted face,—
An uncouth visage, rough and wild,
Yet from behind, with laughing grace,
Peeped the fresh beauty of a child.

And so contrasting, fair, and bright,
It made me of my fancy ask
If half earth's wrinkled grimness might
Be but the baby in the mask.

Behind gray hairs and furrowed brow,
And withered look that life puts on,
Each, as he wears it, comes to know
How the child hides, and is not gone.

For, while the inexorable years
To saddened features fit their mould,
Beneath the work of time and tears
Waits something that will not grow old!

And pain, and petulance, and care,
And wasted hope, and sinful stain,
Shape the strange guise the soul doth wear,
Till her young life look forth again.

The beauty of his boyhood's smile,—
What human faith could find it now
In yonder man of grief and guile,—
A very Cain, with branded brow?

Yet, overlaid and hidden, still
It lingers,— of his life a part;
As the scathed pine upon the hill
Holds the young fibers at its heart.

And, haply, round the Eternal Throne,
Heaven's pitying angels shall not ask
For that last look the world hath known,
But for the face behind the mask!

Atlantic Monthly

The Story-Teller.

MY DAUGHTER MINNIE.

A few years ago — well it is not less than forty — my little home-flock was led, in the matter of years, by my daughter Minnie — a pretty name, I always thought. Minnie was a good child, and being the first-born, was half maternal in her management of the later comers, even down to little "Pigeon," the latest and tiniest of all.

The picture of Minnie is just as fresh in my memory as though the forty years which have simmered and evaporated since, had been weeks instead. But it is a father's eye that looks over these years at Minnie, and the beauty may be half fancy—a sort of affectional illusion. Those we love are transparent, you know—we imagine it is surface tint and surface-light of which we are thinking. This much I know, Minnie was the best, most affectionate, and wildest of daughters — one of those spirited, but industrious little creatures, upon whose enterprise and tact the greatest and strongest of us will involuntarily lean.

"Minnie, shall I want five or six breadths in this skirt?" her mother would say.

Looking up with just a little knitting of the fore-head, after a moment's thought, Minnie would answer:

"I think five will do, mother;" and five it was.

I can hear, even now, the voice of Minnie's mother, —she has been gone twenty years, dear heart!—calling from the head of the stairs:

"Minnie! Say—Minnie!"

"What, mother?"

"What shall we have for dinner to-day?"

"You are tired, mother; let's have a little ham and some eggs, with some peas from the garden, and bread." That settled the bill of fare.

And so it was through the livelong day; for in all domestic policy Minnie, though only prime minister, possessed regal power.

At this time,—this forty years ago,—I was, of course, in the prime of life, and full of the cares and responsibilities which cluster and cling to one's manhood. I was largely engaged in active business,—received some slight evidences of public confidence, —saw a large family coming up about me,—from all of which my natural positiveness and force of character received more or less strengthening. One night, when the last candle had been extinguished, and all was hushed, my wife said, with some anxiety of tone:

"Husband, I feel uneasy about our Minnie."

"Minnie? Why, what is the matter? is she sick?"

"No; she isn't sick, but——"

"But what, my wife?"

"Why Minnie is—I mean, she seems to be—well, I'm afraid she likes Jemmy Brun."

"Jemmy Brun! She'd better not." And I leaped to the floor and walked to the window. "Jemmy Brun and our Minnie!—a pretty match!"

"I was afraid you would be disturbed, dear; but don't take it so much to heart, husband. I dare say we can put a stop to it." And motherly sobs came from the pillow.

"Put a stop to it! I guess I will. Jemmy Brun and our Minnie!—I guess I *will* put a stop to it."

And who was Jemmy Brun? A young man of some two years' residence in the neighborhood,—of good habits, so far as I knew; but altogether and diametrically opposed to my taste,—to my ideal of manliness. I had always worshiped business tact and enterprise. It had taken me, when a penniless boy, and brought me up through numberless difficulties to a position of influence. That which was found in my nature when young, was thus nourished and rooted through all the after years of struggle ripening into triumph.

The young man was of a literary turn of mind; had taught an academy; was a writer, it was said, for one or two periodicals. There was an air of sentiment about him, in his looks and manners, which came precisely within the scope of my contempt. I had known it in others,—in strong business men,—this utter contempt for the least possible manifestation of sentiment; for those unthrifty fellows who have never an eye for business, but hang upon the skirts of thought, clasp imagery, and ride upon rythm. You may see it now every day in commercial antagonism of fact and fancy,—of the figures which dot the pages of the ledger and those which illumine the lines of the poet. "The muses frowned on me," said a German poet, "for keeping account books." Undoubtedly. Nor is the knight of the balance-sheet less intolerant toward those miserable fellows whose entire stock in trade can be stored within a very little cavity just behind the frontal bone.

My good wife had a time of it cooling me down, and prevented the adoption of most violent measures. Even when I had formally surrendered to her superior discretion, I chafed by times like a bear in harness. If wife had not been almost a Rarey in tact, I should certainly have broken into plunging even sooner than I did.

Minnie was taken one day into solemn conference by her mother, with only pussy in the doorway as auditor. But the child, though she blushed very much, moved about from seat to seat, and tore pieces of paper into bits, declared that she was heart-whole yet — as why should she not be? — for Jemmy Brun had never said a word to her which any man might not have said to any maiden. So wife and I got easy again.

But what should I see, one evening at twilight, while sauntering out under the shadows of my own grove of forest oaks, not far from the house, but two figures flitting hither and thither among the distant trees? Like a knave, as I was, I sat on the ground and watched them; watched them nervously, glaringly, till I saw Jemmy Brun give Minnie a kiss on her lips; and looked lovingly after her as she slipped away. I was reclining upon the sward by her path. Determined to meet and confront them, I sat and watched her coming. Certainly Minnie's face never wore that expression before. It was not gleeful, but it was radiant, and her eyes, which were bent on the ground, and hence only visible as she came very near me, had a light and depth that I never saw before. She passed me; so utterly was the child absorbed in her own emotions.

"Minnie!" I said, in a tone which startled myself scarcely less than my child.

"Oh!" and she sprang from the path as though the sound had been a rattle among the grass.

I raised myself slowly—I am very slow when very angry, and standing stiffly before her, glowered down into her eyes,—Minnie's beautiful, living eyes,—with a sternness which had never failed to terrify. But the child, though she trembled like an aspen at first, brought her father's spirit to the rescue, and, in the strength of love and innocence, looked into her father's angry face with great composure.

I must not repeat the words that followed; they never shall be written; and would to God they had never been spoken! Minnie had given him her heart, and *would* give her hand. How could she help it? Even her father's anger should not prevent her fulfilling her word; for was not Jemmy Brun worthy, and was not her father's anger unreasonable and unjust? All this she said to me with the deep calmness of a perfect heroine, while I stood there almost as much astonished as angry.

"Wife, it's all up with Minnie," said I, striding into the sitting room, and breaking in upon a most delightful reverie, only relieved by the solemn ticking, of the clock and the busy click of knitting needles.

"Lord! what's the matter?" and the ball of yarn rolled across the floor, while a flower-pot on the window fell, spilling and crashing on the bricks outside, "there goes the flower-pot—tell me quick—you look as pale as a sheet."

"Minnie has promised to marry that scape-grace in spite of us; she says she will to *me*, in the face of my absolute commands." Thereupon I walked the floor, wife staring at me the while. "I'll never forgive her—never!"

"Husband, stop and think. He—"

"I won't stop and think. I say I'll never forgive her, and I won't. Call her in."

Wife left the room in search of Minnie. At length they came; both tearful. We sat down together, a constrained group; Minnie very tearful, but very sweet and beautiful. The interview was short, and these were the closing words:

"Father, I have always been a dutiful child — you will do me that justice. But I love this man. You grant that his character is unimpeachable, but you forbid our marriage because you have a prejudice against him. I love and honor you, father. You cannot doubt that; but in this case I must follow the dictates of my own heart."

"Do so, if you will; but, remember, your father will never forgive you."

Thus ended the interview, wife sobbing distressfully, Minnie weeping quietly, and I sitting glum and angry.

Minnie kept her word and became the wife of Jemmy Brun.

I did not forbid them the house, as most angry fathers are said to do; but I told Minnie again that she had lost my love and care. Then I was so foolish as to see Jemmy Brun, and in a very silly speech inform him that since he was taking my daughter from her father without his consent, he need expect no gifts or favors now or henceforth. She would not be allowed to share in the family inheritance, nor should I render the least assistance if they "should come to want." I shall never forget the queer look the young man gave,—a glance in which pride seemed almost vainly struggling with a cluster of mirth-sparkles.

"Very well, sir; we will try not to 'come to want.'" That was all he said; but the cool self-possession of his manner made me feel as though I had undertaken to drive a nail and had pounded my fingers.

I had always been demonstrative toward my children,—the elder as well as the younger. Minnie had never lost her right to her father's knee, nor did she ever meet me in the morning or part from me at night without a kiss. This was denied her now. Poor child! It was the sorest trial of all. Once or twice she clung tearfully to me in my sternness, and reaching up to clasp my neck with her white arms, tried to bend my lips to hers. No. I promised her never a kiss while I lived.

Women are strange creatures. There was wife, who had entirely sympathized with me, as I supposed, absolutely giving aid and comfort to our recreant daughter. I verily believe that long before the wedding day came she was as thoroughly interested in the whole affair as though Minnie had been about to marry the best business man in town.—Little use was it for me to tighten my purse strings, and direct that the child should have no marriage outfit of ward-robes, pillow-cases, counterpanes and the thousand and one *et ceteras* in which mothers take such pride and pleasure. In spite of me, but surreptitiously, Minnie was well provided for, I am sure. I remember that the shopman's bills for some ten months thereafter seemed unusually full, both in number of items and footing of column; and I shrewdly suspect that my wife had arranged with the tradesman to have the articles scattered along through the months. She was always a good financier.

The ceremony was performed in church. I was present, lest my absence should give too great notoriety to the family jar. Useless. The whole town having long since been made acquainted with the state of affairs, the bride's beauty and the bridegroom's popularity set many eyes on me with a sparkle of criticism in them.

"He needn't look so savage like," muttered a gruff old yeoman behind me; "there ain't a likelier young fellow anywheres hereabout than Jemmy Brun; an' though Minnie be purty as a pink, it's a good match, I say,—a real even bargain,—so."

Long, long months went by after the marriage,—tedious, unhappy months for me. I knew I was being soured by this self-imposed restraint on the affectional part of my nature. Minnie came to her old home sometimes. Once or twice she begged for the return of the old love,—the old home kiss. No. My daughter was happy in her husband, happy in her new home. But I saw very plainly that the bliss of the old home was lost to her.

Nearly two years went back into the past, shadowed in this manner, when a little human blossom was laid in its cradle. A little struggling wee thing,—another Minnie. Poor one! Here was another influence to be stemmed, as boats stem another wave and another gust. But I braced myself; and when I had been forced into Minnie's chamber, stood over the poor child with the little one on her arm, and heard the faint voice add to the sweetly beseeching look, "do kiss me, father!" I shook my head and went out.

One day a strange change came over the young mother, alarming the experienced, and giving to the physician that ominous air of grave mystery which strikes into the soul of the loving. I moved about full of fear and guilty distress. The symptoms became more and more alarming,— she was sinking. I was called to her bedside, as that of my first dying child. As I bent over the white face, almost translucent with meekness illuminated, my eyes all undimmed by illness, my Minnie gave me the old time glance of love, and throwing up her hands as if to clasp my neck, said faintly, but oh! so earnestly—

"Kiss me, father!"

I bent down to my daughter, my first born, and we wept long together,—the strong father and the faintly breathing child.

What do you think Minnie did? Why, she got well again, and in two months was as musical as a lark, and as gay, looking after the little Minnie like a pretty mother, as she was.

However, the ice was fairly broken, and I was my old fatherly self ever after. Minnie even ventured, after a time, to make merry at my expense, over the fact that not only was Jemmy Brun the best of husbands, but one of the well-known American writers.

I think I was a very great fool.

◆

COURTING BY TELEGRAPH.

Everybody knows that for the last few years, telegraph companies in England have employed females in the instrument department of some of their principal stations. The work is light and clean, and very well adapted for young ladies. Most of them acquire the art of telegraping in a very short time, and there are now in the service many who are able to send and receive messages as well as the best of the male staff. Young ladies are much the same everywhere, and it would, of course, be next to impossible for them to remain any length of time in a room without desiring to hold a fair amount of conversation. As the nature of their employment demands that for the greater part of the time they are at the office they must sit at the instrument to which they are appointed, they cannot very well hold conversation with their companions. So, when a circuit happens to be slack, the young lady who has charge of it finds a great deal of relief in speaking to the clerks at the other end of the wire. After I had been sometime in the service, and was supposed to be thoroughly acquainted with the work, I was appointed to a station which I do not wish to be known by any other name than Merton. After I had introduced myself to those who were to be my fellow clerks, I took possession of the instrument appropriated to me, and, as usual, inquired the name of the lady with whom I was to work. Quick as thought, I received for answer, "Amy Watson. Who are you?" Having given my name and the station from which I had come, we entered into conversation upon general subjects, such as the weather, descriptions of different towns through which we had passed, &c. I soon found that in addition to being an excellent hand at telegraphing, my fair correspondent was very entertaining in conversation; and it was easy to discover from the way in which she acted during a press of business, that she was of a very amiable disposition.

These conversations went on for some time, till at length I was miserably dull when away from the instrument, and always eager to discharge, as quickly as possible, those duties which occasionally called me away, so that I might return to speak to Amy. I was most anxious to see the being who exercised such an influence over me, and at length, after much persuasion, and having obtained the consent of her widowed mother, we exchanged portraits. If I was in love before, I was doubly so now.

Having obtained the likeness, I was more eager than ever to see the original. To hear the sound of her voice—which I was sure, from the expression of her face in the portrait, was soft and sweet—to see her smile on me, and to gaze into her large, bright, blue eyes, seemed to me the objects most to be desired of any in the world. I applied for, and obtained, leave of absence for a fortnight, and instantly proceeded to N——. We met; and everything that I had pictured was naught compared to the beauty and amiability of the original. Before I left, we were engaged to be married; and three months afterwards, having obtained, through the kindness of my superior officer, a transfer from Merton to N——, Amy Watson changed her name for mine. Since then we have lived happily, for we are still lovers, and have never had cause to regret that the principal part of our love making was by telegraph.

◆

THE CHARM OF LIFE.

There are a thousand things in this world to afflict and sadden — but oh! how many that are beautiful and good. The world teems with beauty — with objects that gladden the eye and warm the heart. We might be happy if we would. There are ills that we cannot escape — the approach of disease and death; of misfortunes; the sundering of the early ties, and the canker-worm of grief — but the vast majority of evils that beset us might be avoided. The curse of intemperance, interwoven as it is with all the ligaments of society, is one which never strikes but to destroy. There is not one bright page upon the record of its progress — nothing to shield it from the heartiest execration of the human race. It should not exist — it must not. Do away with all this — let wars come to an end, and let friendship, charity, love, purity and kindness mark the intercourse between man and men. We are too selfish, as if the world was made for us alone. How much happier would we be, were we to labor more earnestly to promote each other's good. God has blessed us with a home that is not dark. There is sunshine everywhere — in the sky, upon the earth — there would be in most hearts if we would look around us. The storm dies away, and a bright sun shines out. Summer drops her tinted curtains upon the earth, which is very beautiful, when autumn breathes her changing breath upon it. God reigns in heaven. Murmur not at a being so good, and we can live happier than we do.

◆

Injuries.—Christianity commands us to pass by injuries; policy, to let them pass by us.—*Franklin.*

Wit and Humor.

SOME LITTLE JOKERS.

Husbands and letter paper should always be well ruled.

If a man is dissipated, his fortune will probably soon be so too.

What sea would make a sleeping room? A dry attic, (Adriatic.)

When you dispute with a fool, he is very certain to be similarly employed.

When two gentlemen fight a duel, each of them is a man after the other's own heart.

A man may generally expect a domestic "breeze" when his wife begins to put on "airs."

Why is a selfish friend like the letter P? Because, though the first in pity, he is the last in help.

The wise carry their knowledge as they do their watches—not for display, but for their own use.

Why is the letter G like an individual who has left an evening party? Because it makes one gone.

When is the letter L like a piece of unparalleled generosity? When it enables a lady to make over a lover.

Seneca says that love is a disease. It seems sometimes to be a combination of diseases—an affection of the heart, and an inflammation of the brain.

A retired schoolmaster excuses his passion for angling, by saying that, from constant habit, he never feels quite himself unless he is handling the rod.

◆

Good Farmer.— "Sambo, is your master a good farmer?"

"O yes, massa, fuss rate farmer — he make two crops in one year."

"How is that, Sambo?"

"Why, he sell all his hay in de fall, and make money once; den in de spring he sell de hides of de cattle dat die for wont of de hay, and make money twice."

◆

The Dandy and the Statesman.—John Randolph, the celebrated orator and statesman, was in a tavern lying on a sofa in the parlor waiting for the stage to come to the door. A dandified chap stepped into the room with a whip in his hand, just come from a drive, and, standing before the mirror, arranged his hair and collar, quite unconscious of the presence of the gentleman on the sofa. After attitudinizing a while, he turned to go out, when Mr. Randolph asked him:—"Has the stage come?" "Stage, sir, stage!" said the fop, "I've nothing to do with it, sir." "Oh! I beg your pardon," said Randolph, quietly, "I thought you were the driver."

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

BIBLICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 45 letters.
My 2, 24, 17, 45 was a husbandman
My 20, 26, 22, 15, 11, 13, 37 gathereth in summer.
My 15, 27, 30, 35, 41, 33 was a Jewish queen
My 12, 16, 26, 23, 29 goeth before destruction
My 17, 26, 40, 36, 25 was very rich in cattle, in silver, &c.
My 4, 16, 18, 9 is a mocker
My 43, 33, 36, 12, 9, 38 were cultivated in olden times.
My 1, 21, 42, 8 is what our Savior is sometimes called.
My 14, 8, 17, 5, 34, 45 maketh many friends.
My 7, 19, 36, 39, 35 is the last enemy to be destroyed.
My 44, 35, 13, 25, 17, 22 was one of the Apostles.
My 19, 40, 32, 17, 25, 11 troubled the king of Babylon
My 5, 3, 31 had flocks and herds.
My whole is a proverb.

Schroon Lake, N. Y., 1861 SAMUEL WHITNEY.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

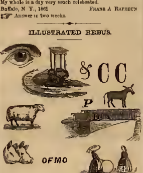
I am composed of 19 letters.
My 12, 2, 6, 7, 9, 14 is a town in Maine.
My 12, 9, 11, 15, 9, 10 is a city in Massachusetts
My 6, 10, 17, 18, 2, 6, 18 is one of the United States.
My 1, 18, 3, 10, 13, 6, 7, 15, 9, 6 is one of the principal cities of the United States.
My 4, 16, 14, 8 is a county in Kentucky
My 17, 2, 10, 8, 9, 10 is a town in Ohio
My whole is a day very much celebrated.

Buffalo, N. Y., 1861 FRANK A. RATHBUN

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

ILLUSTRATED REBUS.



☞ Answer in two weeks

◆

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker

A PUZZLING LETTER.

friends Dear Sir: friends
stand By your
, I bearing disposition
that a
man world
is contempt whilst the
ridiculo
ambitious.

Peru, La Salle Co., Ill., 1861. J. B. R.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

What number (excuse me if you find any fault,) is that of which the square root is equal to its square, and if nine be added to the number, the square root of the sum will equal the number itself, plus three? C. R. Skinner.

Union Square, N. Y., 1861

☞ Answer in two weeks.

◆

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 581.

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Answer to Biographical Enigma.—Samuel Richardson
Answer to Algebraical Problem:—8 months and 10 days.

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BEHIND THE MASK.

It was an old, distorted face,—
An uncouth visage, rough and wild,
Yet from behind, with laughing grace,
Peeped the fresh beauty of a child.

And so contrasting, fair, and bright,
It made me of my fancy ask
If half earth's wrinkled grimness might
Be but the baby in the mask.

Behind gray hairs and furrowed brow,
And withered look that life puts on,
Each, as he wears it, comes to know
How the child hides, and is not gone

For, while the inexorable years
To saddened features fit their mould,
Beneath the work of time and tears
Waits something that will not grow old!

And pain and petulance, and care,
And wasted hope, and sinful stain,
Shape the strange guise the soul doth wear,
Till her young life look forth again.

The beauty of his boyhood's smile,—
What human faith could find it now
In yonder man of grief and guile,—
A very Cain, with branded brow?

Yet, overlaid and hidden, still
It lingers,—of his life a part,
As the scathed pine upon the hill
Holds the young fibers at its heart.

And, haply, round the Eternal Throne,
Heaven's pitying angels shall not ask
For that last look the world hath known,
But for the face behind the mask!

Atlantic Monthly

The Story-Teller.

MY DAUGHTER MINNIE.

A FEW years ago—well it is not less than forty
my little home-flock was led, in the matter of ye
by my daughter Minnie—a pretty name, I alwa
thought. Minnie was a good child, and being t
first-born, was half maternal in her management
the later comers, even down to little "Pigeon," t
latest and tiniest of all.

The picture of Minnie is just as fresh in my memo
as though the forty years which have simmered a
evaporated since, had been weeks instead. But if
a father's eye that looks over these years at Minni
and the beauty may be half fancy—a sort of affection
illusion. Those we love are transparent, you know
we imagine it is surface tint and surface-light
which we are thinking. This much I know, Minn
was the best, most affectionate, and wildest
daughters—one of those spirited, hot industrio
little creatures, upon whose enterprise and tact
greatest and strongest of us will involuntarily lea

"Minnie, shall I want five or six breadths in th
skirt?" her mother would say.

Looking up with just a little knitting of the fo
head, after a moment's thought, Minnie would answe

"I think five will do, mother;" and five it was.

I can hear, even now, the voice of Minnie's mothe
—she has been gone twenty years, dear heart!—ca
ing from the head of the stairs:

"Minnie! Say—Minnie!"

"What, mother?"

"What shall we have for dinner to-day?"

"You are tired, mother; let's have a little ham a
ome eggs, with some peas from the garden, an
read." That settled the bill of fare.

And so it was through the livelong day; for in
omestic policy Minnie, though only prime ministe
ossessed regal power.

At this time,—this forty years ago,—I was, o
urse, in the prime of life, and full of the cares an
sponsibilities which cluster and cling to one's man
od. I was largely engaged in active business,
eived some slight evidences of public confidence
aw a large family coming up about me,—from al
which my natural positiveness and force of charac
received more or less strengthening. One nigh
on the last candle had been extinguished, and al
hushed, my wife said, with some anxiety of tone
"Husband, I feel uneasy about our Minnie."

"Minnie? Why, what is the matter? is she sick?

"No; she isn't sick, but——"

"But what, my wife?"

"Why Minnie is—I mean, she seems to be—wel
afraid she likes Jemmy Brun."

"Jemmy Brun! She'd better not." And I leap
he floor and walked to the window. "Jemm
and our Minnie!—a pretty match!"

"I was afraid you would be disturbed, dear; b
take it so much to heart, husband. I dare sa
an put a stop to it." And motherly sobs cam
the pillow.

"Put a stop to it! I guess I will. Jemmy Bru
our Minnie!—I guess I *will* put a stop to it."

d who was Jemmy Brun? A young man of som
ears' residence in the neighborhood,—of goo
, so far as I knew; but altogether and diame
opposed to my taste,—to my ideal of manli
I had always worshiped business tact and en
e. It had taken me, when a penniless boy, an
it me up through numberless difficulties to
n of influence. That which was found in m
when young, was thus nourished and rooted
all the after years of struggle ripening into
.

young man was of a literary turn of mind;
ght an academy; was a writer, it was said, for
two periodicals. There was an air of senti-
out him, in his looks and manners, which
ecisely within the scope of my contempt. I
wn it in others,—in strong business men,—
contempt for the least possible manifesta-
sentiment; for those unthrifty fellows who
r an eye for business, but hang upon the
thought, clasp imagery, and ride upon
You may see it now every day in commercial
m of fact and fancy,—of the figures which
ges of the ledger and those which illumine
f the poet. "The muses frowned on me,"
man poet, "for keeping account books."
lly. Nor is the knight of the balance-sheet
ant toward those miserable fellows whose
k in trade can be stored within a very little
behind the frontal bone.

wife had a time of it cooling me down, and
the adoption of most violent measures.
I had formally surrendered to her supe-
tion, I chafed by times like a bear in
f wife had not been almost a Rarey in
ld certainly have broken into plunging
than I did.

as taken one day into solemn conference
er, with only pussy in the doorway as
at the child, though she blushed very
d about from seat to seat, and tore pieces
o bits, declared that she was heart-whole
y should she not be?—for Jemmy Brun
had never said a word to her which any man might not have said to any maiden. So wife and I got easy again.

But what should I see, one evening at twilight, while sauntering out under the shadows of my own grove of forest oaks, not far from the house, but two figures flitting hither and thither among the distant trees? Like a knave, as I was, I sat on the ground and watched them; watched them nervously, gloringly, till I saw Jemmy Brun give Minnie a kiss on her lips; and looked lovingly after her as she slipped away. I was reclining upon the sward by her path. Determined to meet and confront them, I sat and watched her coming. Certainly Minnie's face never wore that expression before. It was not gleeful, but it was radiant, and her eyes, which were bent on the ground, and hence only visible as she came very near me, had a light and depth that I never saw before. She passed me; so utterly was the child absorbed in her own emotions.

"Minnie!" I said, in a tone which startled myself scarcely less than my child.

"Oh!" and she sprang from the path as though the sound had been a rattle among the grass.

I raised myself slowly—I am very slow when very angry, and standing stiffly before her, glowered down into her eyes,—Minnie's beautiful, living eyes,—with a sternness which had never failed to terrify. But the child, though she trembled like an aspen at first, brought her father's spirit to the rescue, and, in the strength of love and innocence, looked into her father's angry face with great composure.

I must not repeat the words that followed; they never shall be written; and would to God they had never been spoken! Minnie had given him her heart, and *would* give her hand. How could she help it? Even her father's anger should not prevent her fulfilling her word; for was not Jemmy Brun worthy, and was not her father's anger unreasonable and unjust? All this she said to me with the deep calmness of a perfect heroine, while I stood there

[illegible]

the wedding day came she was as thoroughly interested in the whole affair as though Minnie had been about to marry the best business man in town.—Little use was it for me to tighten my purse strings, and direct that the child should have no marriage outfit of ward-robes, pillow-cases, counterpanes and the thousand and one *et ceteras* in which mothers take such pride and pleasure. In spite of me, but surreptitiously, Minnie was well provided for, I am sure. I remember that the shopman's bills for some ten months thereafter seemed unusually full, both in number of items and footing of column; and I shrewdly suspect that my wife had arranged with the tradesman to have the articles scattered along through the months. She was always a good financier.

The ceremony was performed in church. I was present, lest my absence should give too great notoriety to the family jar. Useless. The whole town having long since been made acquainted with the state of affairs, the bride's beauty and the bridegroom's popularity set many eyes on me with a sparkle of criticism in them.

"He needn't look so savage like," muttered a gruff old yeoman behind me; "there ain't a likelier young fellow anywheres hereabout than Jemmy Brun; an' though Minnie 's as purty as a pink, it's a good match, I say,—a real even bargain,—so."

Long, long months went by after the marriage,—tedious, unhappy months for me. I knew I was being soured by this self-imposed restraint on the affectional part of my nature. Minnie came to her old home sometimes. Once or twice she begged for the return of the old love,—the old home kiss. No.

My daughter was happy in her husband, happy in her new home. But I saw very plainly that the bliss of the old home was lost to her.

Nearly two years went back into the past, shadowed in this manner, when a little human blossom was laid in its cradle. A little struggling wee thing,—another Minnie. Poor me! Here was another influence to be stemmed, as boats stem another wave and another gust. But I braced myself; and when I had been forced into Minnie's chamber, stood over the poor child with the little one on her arm, and heard the faint voice add to the sweetly beseeching look, "do kiss me, father!" I shook my head and went out.

One day a strange change came over the young mother, alarming the experienced, and giving to the physician that ominous air of grave mystery which strikes into the soul of the loving. I moved about full of fear and guilty distress. The symptoms became more and more alarming,—she was sinking. I was called to her bedside, as that of my first dying child. As I bent over the white face, almost translucent with meekness illuminated, my eyes all undimmed by illness, my Minnie gave me the old time glance of love, and throwing up her hands as if to clasp my neck, said faintly, but oh! so earnestly—

"Kiss me, father!"

I bent down to my daughter, my first born, and we wept long together,—the strong father and the faintly breathing child.

What do you think Minnie did? Why, she got well again, and in two months was as musical as a lark, and as gay, looking after the little Minnie like a pretty mother, as she was.

However, the ice was fairly broken, and I was my old fatherly self ever after. Minnie even ventured, after a time, to make merry at my expense, over the fact that not only was Jemmy Brun the best of husbands, but one of the well-known American writers.

I think I was a very great fool.

* * *

THE CHARM OF LIFE.

THERE are a thousand things in this world to afflict and sadden—but oh! how many that are beautiful and good. The world teems with beauty—with objects that gladden the eye and warm the heart. We might be happy if we would. There are ills that we cannot escape—the approach of disease and death; of misfortunes; the sundering of the early ties, and the canker-worm of grief—but the vast majority of evils that beset us might be avoided. The curse of intemperance, interwoven as it is with all the ligaments of society, is one which never strikes but to destroy. There is not one bright page upon the record of its progress—nothing to shield it from the heartiest execration of the human race. It should not exist—it must not. Do away with all this—let wars come to an end, and let friendship, charity, love, purity and kindness mark the intercourse between man and man. We are too selfish, as if the world was made for us alone. How much happier would we be, were we to labor more earnestly to promote each other's good. God has blessed us with a home that is not dark. There is sunshine everywhere—in the sky, upon the earth—there would be in most hearts if we would look around us. The storm dies away, and a bright sun shines out. Summer drops her tinted curtains upon the earth, which is very beautiful, when autumn breathes her changing breath upon it. God reigns in heaven. Murmur not at a being so good, and we can live happier than we do.

* * *

INJURIES.—Christianity commands us to pass by injuries; policy, to let them pass by us.—*Franklin.*

Wit and Humor.

SOME LITTLE JOKERS.

HUSBANDS and letter paper should always be well ruled.

IF a man is dissipated, his fortune will probably soon be so too.

WHAT sea would make a sleeping room? A dry attic, (Adriatic.)

WHEN you dispute with a fool, he is very certain to be similarly employed.

WHEN two gentlemen fight a duel, each of them is a man after the other's own heart.

A MAN may generally expect a domestic "breeze" when his wife begins to put on "airs."

WHY is a selfish friend like the letter P? Because, though the first in pity, he is the last in help.

THE wise carry their knowledge as they do their watches—not for display, but for their own use.

WHY is the letter G like an individual who has left an evening party? Because it makes one gone.

WHEN is the letter L like a piece of unparalleled generosity? When it enables a lady to make over a lover.

SENECA says that love is a disease. It seems sometimes to be a combination of diseases—an affection of the heart, and an inflammation of the brain.

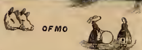
A RETIRED schoolmaster excuses his passion for angling, by saying that, from constant habit, he never feels quite himself unless he is handling the rod.

* * *

GOOD FARMER.—"Sambo, is your master a good farmer?"

"O yes, massa, fuss rate farmer—he make two crops in one year."

"[illegible]



☞ Answer in two weeks

* * *

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friends Dear Sir. friends
stand By your
I bearing disposition
that a
man world
is contempt whilst the
ridicule
ambitious.

Peru, La Salle Co., Ill., 1861. J. B. R.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

* * *

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

WHAT number (excuse me if you find any fault,) is that of which the square root is equal to its square, and if nine be added to the number, the square root of the sum will equal the number itself, plus three? C. R. SKINNER.

Union Square, N. Y., 1861

☞ Answer in two weeks.

* * *

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